

John H. Davis  
4 March 11

# THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### ENTERPRISE.

To every virtue there is an obverse—and contentment is no exception to the rule. There is an intelligent, active, cheerful acquiescence in "whatever is"—there is also an indolent, dumb, stupid listlessness, which is by some men mistaken for it. The first is the satisfaction of a mind awake; which, glancing at the grand outline of "a stupendous plot," the intricacies of which it is, as yet, incompetent to unravel, calmly awaits the appointed hour for its solution, in unwavering confidence that the minutest details are wisely arranged. The last is the reluctance of a mind to be aroused from inactivity and torpor, and which, like those Indians of North Western America, prefers the long idleness of savage life, with all its brutality, to the industry of civilisation with all its refinement. Happy is he whose will consents to his lot, whilst the life within him is aspiring to an indefinite improvement of it! Such happiness, however, is not to be identified with the non-resistance of a soul which knows no aspiration. Contentment and stolidity are far from being the same thing.

The spirit of enterprise would seem to be born of discontent—and, in some sense, but that a very qualified one, it is so. Mind—boundless, deathless mind, cannot be satisfied with what it can measure. When we have seen all that belongs to a thing we cease to prize it. Every desire of the human soul, even sensual desires, may be resolved into a native, instinctive thirst for knowledge. We invariably hanker after an acquaintance which may be termed exhaustive, with the objects with which our senses hold familiar converse. We are uneasy until we have taken its dimensions—height, depth, breadth, and length—until we have discovered all its qualities—and when we have done so it ceases further to attract us. It is thrown aside as a sucking orange. Were we able to comprehend the essence of things, we should probably be the most miserable of creatures. Therefore is the mind of man like the bee—ever on the wing—ranging over a wide sphere, and sucking honey, first from one flower, then from another, seemingly desirous of sipping nectar from all. And out of this insatiable desire to know, arises the spirit of enterprise. It may be a virtue or a vice in individuals, as it is wisely or unwisely directed; but the absence of it argues the ascendancy of morbid morals.

Enterprise is the salt of society. Wherever it is wanting there is moral putridity. A community settling on its own lees will quickly undergo the acetoous fermentation. That restlessness among a people of any land which prompts them to be ever seeking an improvement of their state, like the tides of ocean, preserves society from stagnant corruption. An enterprising nation is never a degenerating nation. Its very activity throws out its vices. It grows better as it grows older. And the converse of this is true. A satisfied people is none other than an ignorant, demoralised, and essentially wretched people—a people whose condition, of necessity, gets worse and worse, until, at length, they cease, as a distinct community, to be. The very intelligence which, in individual cases, is necessary to contentment, forbids, in the case of nations, every feeling of satisfaction; and he who is most actively consentient to "things as they are," in as far as they touch his own convenience only, will be most benevolently dissatisfied with "whatever is," as far as the community of which he is a member is concerned. The possessor of the fee-simple of an estate will feel and act very differently from a trustee for society at large, or for succeeding generations. Enterprise, therefore, is identified with the moral as well as social well-being of all large masses of men, under whatever form of government. Its absence is usually attended by the most degrading corruption.

That the voluntary mode of sustaining Christianity promotes a spirit of enterprise need hardly be insisted upon with anything like elaboration of argument. Whatever may be the philosophy of it, the phenomenon is undoubted. Throw but the religion of a land upon its own resources, and the spirit of active enterprise it evokes for its own support prompts, enters into, and informs, all other undertakings. Establish it, and just in proportion as you succeed, you damp the ardour without which enterprise must die. Take a map, and glance at the several nations of the earth. Wherever religion

is either wholly or in part self-sustained, there may be seen also a people distinguished, in the main, for activity, energy, and a perpetual reaching after improvement. But mark the spots in which Christianity has comfortably reposed upon cushioned chairs and rich endowments—where priests have been many and their living sure—where churches are most numerous and most splendid—and where the maintenance of divine ordinances is most fully, permanently, and unchangeably provided for—and what is the uniform condition of the people of such lands? Without an exception, we think, they will be characterised by that kind of *nonchalance*—that carelessness about bettering their own position—that indolent, stupid, settle-downedness upon "things as they are," which excludes all present hope of social progress. With them earth gets no nearer heaven, but rather recedes from it. Their tendency is downwards. They drive from bad to worse.

Or, to fetch an illustration from a quarter nearer home and therefore more accurately known, let us look back upon the history of our own country. When, at first, Christianity laid her soft hand upon this rude and unclad nation, and gently shook it from the troubled dreams of paganism—paganism which, for ages, like a nightmare had brooded upon the mind of society, causing the nations to heave and labour in the deep sleep of their ignorance, and start affrighted at their own feverish superstitions, and cry out inarticulately and in vain for some deliverer—and when fierce Britain looked round upon the light of day, and forgot the horrors of the preceding night, how she stretched herself for action, and, as "man goeth forth to his labour in the morning," commenced the pursuit of knowledge, not spiritual only, but civil and secular. Here, well nigh far back as the light of history conducts us, we find the voluntary support of Christianity, and the first sproutings of inquiry, activity, and enterprise, to be coeval. The Saxon irruption could not wholly destroy them. The far northwest, beyond the reach of barbarism, was to Europe a little bright, gushing fountain of civilisation and knowledge. Roman Christianity—Christianity tethered by law to the soil, its maintenance made sure by tithes and enforced offerings, did no great deal for the people. Not till holy men were turned out of easy nests by persecution—not till ecclesiastical authorities thrust religion out of doors to get its own living, and find out the secret of its own strength, do we discern anything in England giving promise of its present superiority over nations. Lollardism, puritanism, nonconformity—in a word, that faith in truth which scorns to rely upon the buttresses of compulsory support—this it was which first prompted our country to noble undertakings. Our forefathers may have theoretically disclaimed, as indeed they did, the voluntary principle. But tyranny drove them into association with it. And when compelled to cast about them for the support of God's truth, they learned to cast about them for their own and for society's advantage. In the midst of these troublous times, the national spirit of enterprise was born—Christian willingness nursed it into strength—and the result may be seen in every quarter of the globe—for in every quarter may be found some traces of our greatness.

Let those who are disposed to question the accuracy of our conclusions, attempt to conceive what Great Britain would have been, if the Christianity which is in it had been suffered by Providence to snore on undisturbed until now, upon the downy pillows of state provision—if we had never had in this country a St Bartholomew's day, which taught two thousand ministers of God, albeit with tears in their eyes, to turn out in the stormiest hour of adversity, and find a maintenance for the gospel. Staled and fatted priesthood—did it ever prick nations into noble enterprise—ever fill the heart of society with any other image than that of a rubicund countenance, a double chin, and ample rotundity of person? Has not its maxim been, from time immemorial, "Things as they are?" Look at it now! it shakes its head, and purses, as well as collops of fat will admit of, its heavy brows at manufacturing industry. It has uttered its wish that the commercial enterprise of our great towns were utterly destroyed from the face of the land. There, where it is triumphant—in rural districts, generation succeeds to generation without showing the smallest sign of improvement. The very traditional superstitions which survived heathenism, their common parent, have always contrived to live in the neigh-

bourhood of wealthy churchism—and where ecclesiastical endowments are most ample, these hoary and wrinkled relics of ancient ignorance, find shelter in the congenial darkness.

But we must break off. It were easy to pursue the subject, and to us no irksome task. The *rationale* of the phenomenon is not, we think, far to seek. It lies even upon the surface. National enterprise is only the outward result of a certain state of the national mind. Care for Christianity induces this state. Nothing else can do it so effectually.

CHURCH RATES, LEICESTER.—Summons for church rates at the instance of Mr John Sarson, grocer, Hotel street, and Mr John Marston, lawyer's clerk, Friar lane, were served yesterday (Friday) on the following parishioners of St Martin's:—Messrs Cripps and Kemp; Messrs T. and W. Archer; Messrs T. and W. Stevenson; Messrs Swain and Paddy; Messrs T. and J. Nunneley; Mr W. Baines, Market place; Mr Baines, High street; Mr Winks; Mr West; Mr Manning; Mr Shardlow; Mr Holmes; Mr H. A. Collier, *Mercury office*; Mr Sharpe; and Mr Thirlby.—*Leicester Mercury*.

CHURCH RATES.—"The select vestry," says the *Preston Chronicle*, "has determined to bring the matter (non-payment of church rates) to a legal decision; and accordingly one of the defaulters has been cited to appear in the ecclesiastical court at York, on the 23rd inst." Preston is not the only place in which the church rate question is agitating the public mind; in various parishes the church is pushing her claims to an issue. In Nottingham, St Mary's church is closed. And why? Because dissenters refuse to be taxed for the worship of churchmen, and churchmen are not sufficiently zealous and self-denying to keep their rent-free temple in repair. The *Nottingham Journal* of last week bids the dissenters beware.

"The names of all the recusants—all who voted against the rate—are recorded and returned; so that, by selecting some of the most influential, or any of those who opposed the rate, it would now only be necessary to apply for a citation for their appearance in the ecclesiastical court. A similar case is now before the court of Arches, in which we understand the mayor of Norwich and some others have been fined, and are monitioned to pay the fine and repair their church; and in the event of further resistance they will, by application to the court of Chancery, be imprisoned until their contumacy is purged by the payment of the fine and reparation of the building." Is it Spain or is it England in which we live? Are the nonconformists of 1843 Englishmen, or are they Chinese, that they tamely listen to language like this? We pray the state church to put in motion all the machinery of her dark and dismal ecclesiastical courts. Pains and penalties—fine and imprisonment—may rouse a spirit before which that badge of social degradation, the church rate, will perish, and the church herself be in danger of dissolution.—*Gateshead Observer*.

CHURCH RATES AND BURDENS ON THE LAND.—The following humorous and pointed observations on this subject, extracted from the report of a speech delivered by Colonel Thompson last week at an anti-corn-law demonstration at Bristol, place this disputed point in its proper light.

"There was a great dispute not long ago, and is still, on the subject of church rates. I wonder whether there are any dissenters here; if they are, they may know something about the question, and remember how it was impressed upon them by the present minister, that church rates were no diminution of the dissenters' property, because he bought the property subject to the rates. Well, he might buy some property; but how was it with the property he never bought? The present prime minister stood up in the house of Commons, with a row of his followers behind him, and triumphantly stated that argument to the House—that dissenters had bought their property lower for the church rates, and therefore they would be very bad dissenters if they thought they would be better for getting rid of them; and then he turned round to the row of little boys behind him, who hollered as you would when you were little boys, if your schoolmaster had bid you. That same prime minister comes forward now, on the subject of tithes; but he does not say that tithes are not taken out of the property of the land, because the purchase has been made at a lower rate, in consequence of the tithes; not he—he forgets that portion of his argument. But he comes round and tells us that owners of land have all a claim for compensation, or at least a reckoning on this account of tithes. Now, is that fair?—is that what should be tolerated by a community? So far as the responsibility of the minister goes (I don't want to do him any mischief)—so far as the question goes whether he is a minister to trust and admire—is that a sort of argument which will convince any here of his merits? There might be some strength, you will observe, in this last argument about the tithes, if there was not this sore place about it, and this sad difference between the case of the tithe-owners and dissenters—I never knew a dissenter, whose predecessors, being dissenters, had given away church rates; but the predecessors of the tithe-owners gave away the tithes, *pro salute animarum*; they did it for the well-being of their souls. Whether they attained their object we cannot say. But if landowners choose to endow a

church with one-tenth of the produce of their land, far be it from us to allow their successors to come down and claim to take from our industry a compensation for their ancestors' proceedings."

**DISSENTING BAPTISM AND CHURCH BURIAL.**—The following are part of the contents of a handbill circulated in the parish of Topcroft. It explains itself:—

"A caution was lately addressed to the clergy, occasioned by facts which had occurred in the neighbourhood and warning them, by a case recently decided, that it was not competent for them to refuse church burial to children baptised by dissenters."

"To this a reply was published by the Rev. E. Wilson—a rejoinder followed, and a surrejoinder by Mr W. has just appeared.

"1. Mr Wilson claimed for his church the sole possession of Christian truth, and denounced all dissenters as without the pale of salvation.

"It was demonstrated to Mr W., that his church is by her dignitaries propounding every possible variety of doctrine, and has no rule for determining what she believes or teaches. And he does not reply upon the point.

"2. Mr Wilson asserted that it was doubtful whether children baptised by dissenters were entitled to church burial; and certain that adults so baptised, and unreconciled to the church, were not entitled to that rite.

"It was replied, on the highest authority, that the clergy may be compelled to bury, with all the forms of the church, such children and such adults. And Mr W. does not reply upon this point.

"3. It was further alleged, that the sole exponent of church's faith is the 'judicial committee of the privy council,' composed of legal, secular men. And Mr W.'s only reply is to reprint the passage, and annex an inquiry, How long churchmen are to lie under this imputation?

"This opens a new and large subject.

"By what process can orthodoxy or heterodoxy be identified in the church? Practically, this is a question of rare application; for although the differences of her sons, on points which they declare essential, are irreconcilable, they are usually satisfied to remain in one nominal communion, that of the church by law established. But suppose a bishop really in earnest to purge out from the church errors tenaciously held, and at variance with his own convictions of her essential truths. How can he proceed? The first step is to cite the delinquent, as a 'setter forth of strange doctrines,' into the Consistorial court of his own diocese, which, it may be presumed, will denounce the heresy, censure the past, and monish for the future. But from this judgment an appeal is had to the tribunal of the archbishop, called the court of Arches; and again, from the decision so obtained, a second and ultimate appeal lies to this 'judicial committee,' erected by a very recent act of parliament, and composed of the great law officers of the realm, present and retired, who thus become the supreme judges, as on the recent questions of burying dissenters' children, and praying for the souls of the dead, of what are, and what are not, the doctrines of the church and the opinions of her clergy."

**PUSEYISM.**—The following document has been already extensively signed by the clergy:—"A plan for giving the clergy of England and Wales an opportunity of expressing their conviction on the subject of the reformation:—It is proposed to obtain by private application one hundred clerical signatures in the diocese of London, one hundred in the diocese of Chester, and fifty in each of the other dioceses, agreeing to express, in a temperately worded declaration, our firm adherence to the principles of the reformation, as set forth in our articles, embodied in our formulae, and developed in the writings of our reformers, from Crammer to Hooker; and to renew a solemn protest against the errors of Rome, and all that tends to lead men's minds back to the doctrines abjured by the reformers. When these 1,300 signatures shall be obtained, it is proposed that several clergymen, one from each diocese if possible, shall meet to draw up the declaration, which will not vary in substance from the above, to have it printed and sent with the weight of its 1,300 signatures to all other clergymen in the kingdom, inviting their signatures, and by the result, as we hope, give courage and confidence to the friends of the church as she is."—*Suffolk Chronicle*.

#### PROPOSED SCHEME FOR NATIONAL EDUCATION.

The government bill for national education, or as some have termed it, "The British and Sunday School Extension bill," seems likely to arouse the indignation of the country, though agitation may come too late to prevent its passing the house of Commons. The following will prove that dissenters are not idle:—

At a meeting of the Nottinghamshire association of Independent Ministers and Churches, held on Tuesday last, the following resolution was unanimously carried:—

"That whilst we feel the importance of a more extended education of the people, and should hail the introduction of any system for that purpose, founded on principles in accordance with the rights of conscience, we cannot but regret that, in the bill recently introduced into the house of Commons by Sir James Graham, there are provisions which we regard as subversive of civil and religious liberty. We feel it our duty to protect ourselves against any such bill, and to call upon all the friends of religious liberty to meet it with the most strenuous opposition."

"The committee of deputies (says the *Patriot*) have denounced the project as 'creating in favour of the parochial clergy and the established church new, injurious, intolerant, unlimited, and irresponsible power and authority over the people and rising generation, that will violate all religious equality, and be thoroughly incompatible with the rights of conscience and civil and religious liberty.' The Religious Freedom society, on the motion of the Rev. Dr Campbell (a name of which Sir James Graham has by this time learned the power), has proclaimed that the insulting scheme 'would have the effect of breaking up, if not of absolutely extinguishing, the existing schools—daily as well as Sunday schools—supported by voluntary contributions, and of placing under the absolute control of the clergy the education of the operative classes, thereby constituting it a covert scheme of church extension, to be paid for out of the poor rates.' The London Board of Congregational Ministers have justly characterised the pro-

posal as 'calculated to maintain and diffuse a sectarian and anti-social feeling in the community, to establish clerical domination, to oppress the conscientious dissenter, and utterly to prostrate the independent spirit of the people.' The obnoxious project has likewise been brought under the notice of the Sunday School union, and other bodies with whose principles and operations it mischievously interferes; and many days will not elapse before this 'untimely birth' will have received the universal condemnation of every class and interest in the country, save only its fond parents, the state priests, who make it Christian, and the recreant whigs, its sponsors."

A meeting of Sunday school teachers was to be held last night, at St Mary's chapel, Norwich, for the purpose of hearing an explanation, by the Rev. W. Brock, of the extremely objectionable character of the new education bill just introduced by government, and to consider the best means which can be adopted for giving it a decided and strenuous opposition.

#### THE SCOTCH KIRK.

On the probability of secession the *Edinburgh Weekly Chronicle* of Saturday says—"As far as appearances and reports go, the decision of the legislature last week on the affairs of the church of Scotland, has settled the question in the minds of the non-intrusionists, and shut them up to take the step they have so long threatened. They must now secede or forego all claims to public respect. Their acknowledged leaders have admitted this in the plainest terms. Dr Candlish, in a letter addressed to the editor of the *Caledonian Mercury*, complaining of a misrepresentation by the London correspondent of that paper of the scope of a speech which the reverend doctor delivered on Thursday last week, in the Scotch church, Regent's square, says—

"I think it right to say, that neither on the occasion alluded to in Regent's square church, nor on any other occasion, did I utter a word which could possibly be twisted into such a meaning as your correspondent ascribes to me. On the contrary, I spoke throughout of the disruption of the church as now inevitable. I commented at great length upon the decision of the government and the House of Commons, for the express purpose of showing that it refused, out and out, our claim of exclusive spiritual jurisdiction, as well as our principle of non-intrusion, and left us no alternative but either to separate as a church from the state, or to secede as individuals; and I particularly dwelt upon the decisive nature of the answer which we had received, explaining that the question, in its present form, was conclusively at an end, and that all that remained for us now was to prepare for the new state of things."

"This is surely plain enough, if there be any precise meaning in language. Still there seems to be a strong inclination in certain high quarters to open some back door by which the parties so completely committed in the face of the world may skulk from the redemption of their solemn pledges, and abandon the high grounds of principle they have taken up."

The *Dundee Herald* says—"We may reckon upon a good number of deserters, even amongst the most fiery of the late declaimers. Still the secession will be, in all probability, a large one; and so far as we can see will, in its ultimate effects, be an important one. This is the age of inquiry, and the present threatened schism its inevitable result. It proves that the old framework is now rotten, and cannot support the system much longer. Come when it may, we shall rejoice in its downfall."

#### Correspondence.

##### CHURCH-RATE ENFORCING DEACONS.

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

SIR—If you think proper, I wish the question should be publicly put, whether it is right or wrong to publish the proceedings respecting the seizure of property for the payment of church rates, when it so happens that one of the magistrates who takes an active part in the matter, is a deacon of an independent church in the neighbourhood? I also want to know how it is possible for a gentleman with proper feelings to occupy the office of deacon, and at the same time be a conserver to a national church, which is seen by his signature being affixed to distress warrants, &c., &c. The constable entered my mill, and took nine bushels of wheat without producing his authority; nor did I know that he had a distress warrant, till I asked him for a sight of it a fortnight afterwards. Is this legal?

The rate was £1—expenses £1 6s. 3d.; balance returned, 14s. 6d.

Yours, &c.,

Witham, March, 1843.

D. H. PIPER.

##### ARE CHURCH RATES A BURDEN ON LAND?

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

SIR—I have lately purchased an estate. To preserve his cattle, my predecessor was in the habit of paying a considerable sum annually, as black-mail to a notorious bandit, whose depredations have lessened the value of all the property in his neighbourhood. Will you, sir, inform me whether I can honestly refuse the fellow's demand? You will observe, I was aware of the custom when I made the purchase, yet I do not see that the rogue thus acquires any additional title.

I remain, sir, your obedient servant,

March 17, 1843.

choly proof of the evils that have been entailed upon the world by this grand error. Until the huge establishment, "with its glass eyes, making a ghastly affectation of life," is swept away, the national mind will never learn to walk *alone*. This consummation, however, will not take place in an afternoon. "The tendency to universality," to use Channing's expression, works long with various success. Like a rivulet, it trickles in lone and sinuous tracks till, after many a winding route, it evolves itself in ample volume into the sea of public opinion. The kirk of Scotland exhibits this in its present position. The non-intrusionist or anti-patronage party saw the dissenters growing in strength and solidity, and becoming jealous of their independence, they made an attempt to get at the "dissidence of dissent" without burdening themselves with its inconveniences. They were making the bolt, when they were brought to their senses by a tug from the state chain, which never was intended to allow such liberties. Finding it vain, after disheartening wrangle, to reach the firm ground of the "willinghood" principle, they are shifting their camp and making straight for the open ground, where the interdicts and iron of the court of Session cannot extend. In all probability the 17th of May will witness the disruption

which has been threatened so long, and the seceders will, doubtless, be entertaining new ideas regarding aristocratic friendship. The voluntary press of Scotland is indulging in jocular speculation, instead of evoking the great truth proclaimed by the event, and applying it to the strengthening of their own position. I am happy, sir, to see that you are viewing the matter in its proper light, and that you are about to render it subservient to the exposition of those eternal principles which you have advocated in such a true-born-Englishman style. We may anticipate that healthy moral results will flow from the event. "The democratic views of dignity" will be felt and taught. Ministers who were once built up in buckram stateliness will soften into the glow of warm feeling which an equality and contact with their flocks will enkindle. I therefore would not be surprised to see in a few years an accession of complete suffrage friends from an unexpected quarter. Not a hundred miles from this place there is a parish minister who will not be among the last to secede, and who, eight or ten years back, used to indulge in fierce tirades, then so rife, against the dissenters, and cry down everything opposed to conservatism, all which was swallowed with inexpressible gusto by the dignitaries and satraps with which the church was stuck round. Adversity makes men acquainted with strange bed-fellows. Years have rolled away, and circumstances have occurred, which have made him feel the hollowness of aristocratic support. He has now flung himself down through the flats of conventional distinction, and has alighted on the only solid basis—the respect and countenance of the poor, and by them will go out from the church followed and supported. He already has the hardihood to denounce the corn laws, which he alleges are laws which crush the poor for the aggrandisement of the rich—to condemn the cruel misdeeds of class legislation, and to reprove the selfishness of the oppressor; and I believe, if the moral bearings of complete suffrage were fairly expounded to him, he would not be slow in giving his support to the principle. Thus we see the progress of events shaped in such a way as that their ends shall serve the cause of truth, and the great principles of the progressive elicited from materials the most unpromising. Should the secession from the kirk be followed by the results we have contemplated, we may well have faith in the ultimate issuing of the "stupendous plot" in which the moral purposes of God are involved, and by which the destiny of millions may be happily influenced. These remarks may, perhaps, be worthy of your notice.

I am, sir, &c.,  
Jedburgh, March 18th. A NONCONFORMIST.

#### CITY CORPORATE REFORM.

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

SIR—I feel obliged for your insertion of the receipts and expenditure of the (so called) Irish society. It is bewildering to examine, in detail, the wasteful deeds of the corporation of London; but the citizens should be informed, and should take note of the sort of work these worthies are wont to get through with, and the money it costs. As a sample of the charity which ends as well "begins at home," permit me to cite a list of "honorary rewards" granted in 1837. I quote from that year, having its accounts more fully before me, but *ex uno disce omnes*, and 1837 may be as pertinently referred to as 1842, in dealing with a body not "given to change."

Remembering the contemptible issue of their noble schemes of self-reformation, some of the items must raise a blush in those for whose behalf the money was expended, unless indeed their connexion with corporation iniquities has deprived them of the susceptibility.

It may be said the items are of inconsiderable amount, but they will at least serve to herald their monstrosities, a specimen of which I cannot even now forbear concluding with—viz., that when her Majesty visited the city for two or three hours in the before-mentioned year, the corporators, true to their vocation, embraced the opportunity to squander of the hard-working citizens' money, *nine thousand six hundred and twelve pounds, five shillings, and eleven pence!*

Your constant reader,  
INVESTIGATOR.

#### HONORARY REWARDS.

To expense of ornamentally writing the thanks of the court to W. T. Copeland, Esq., M.P., late lord mayor .....	£15 15 0
Expense of emblazoning ditto .....	16 5 0
Burnished gold frame for ditto .....	9 12 0
Cost of silver salver to W. T. Copeland, Esq., the late lord mayor, as chairman of the committee of the whole court, in relation to the municipal institutions of this city .....	50 0 0
Expense of ornamentally working, emblazoning, painting, and glazing the thanks of the court to Wm Pritchard, Esq., late chairman of the committee of the whole court, in relation to the said institutions .....	46 19 6
Emblazoning the address of the court to the Right Hon. Earl Grey, and his lordship's answer thereto .....	20 5 6
Mr Town Clerk, to defray the expense of emblazoning and ornamentally writing on vellum, the thanks of the court to C. Pearson, Esq .....	41 1 0
	£199 18 0

## Imperial Parliament.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

African emigration, against government scheme of, 1.  
American treaty, against ratification of article relative to fugitive slaves, 6.  
Church extension, for, 17.  
Corn laws, for repeal of, 29.  
Ecclesiastical Courts bill, against, 20.  
Malt duty, for repeal of, 3.  
Manchester bishopric, in favour of, 1.  
Maynooth college, against further grant to, 1.  
Mines and Collieries act, for amendment of, 3.  
Municipal Corporations (Ireland) act, for amendment of, 2.  
Parliamentary reform, 2.  
Poor Law Amendment act, for alteration of, 1.  
Poor Relief (Ireland) act, for amendment of, 8.  
Property Tax act, for repeal of, 3.  
Roman Catholic Relief act, for repeal of, 1.  
S Asaph and Bangor dioceses, against union of, 34.

## PUBLIC BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

BILLS PRESENTED AND READ A FIRST TIME.  
1. Consolidated Fund (£8,000,000) bill.  
2. Drainage of Lands bill.  
3. Attorneys and Solicitors bill.  
4. Indemnity bill.

## BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

1. Mutiny bill.  
2. Marine Mutiny bill.  
3. Consolidated Fund (£8,000,000) bill.  
4. Coast of Africa, &c., bill.  
5. Indemnity bill.

## CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

1. Dogs bill.  
2. Mutiny bill.  
3. Marine Mutiny bill.  
4. Slave trade (payment of bounties).—1. Resolved, That a bounty of five pounds shall be paid, out of the consolidated fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for every slave on board any vessel captured under the provisions of the treaties with the republics of Bolivia, Uruguay, and the Texas, for the abolition of the slave trade; and that the commissioners of her Majesty's treasury be authorised to direct the payment, out of the said consolidated fund, of the costs or damages payable by any officer on the seizure or detention of vessels under the said treaties.

2. Resolved, That the captors of any vessel engaged in the illicit traffic in slaves, in violation of the said treaties, shall receive the portion of such vessel to which her Majesty is entitled.

5. Consolidated Fund (£8,000,000) bill.

6. Coast of Africa, &c., bill.

7. Supply.—£18,182,100, to pay off exchequer bills; £191,045, commissariat department; £47,945, half pay commissariat.

BILL READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED.

Sudbury Disfranchisement bill.

## MOTIONS.

Landed interest.—"That a select committee be appointed, to inquire whether there are any peculiar burthens specially affecting the landed interest of this country, or any peculiar exemptions enjoyed by that interest, and to ascertain their nature and extent."—(Mr Ward:) amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That" to the end of the question, in order to add the words, "it is expedient, as a remedy for a state of anxiety embarrassing and unfair to the agriculturists, and injurious to commerce, that the attention of this House be directed to the continued existence of associations which, in matters affecting agriculture and commerce, pretend to influence the deliberations of the legislature, and which, by their combination and by their proceedings, are at once dangerous to the public peace and inconsistent with the spirit of the constitution."—(Mr Bankes,)—instead thereof. Amendment negatived without a division: original question put; the House divided; ayes 133, noes 232.

Privilege.—"That Sir William Gossett, Knight, the serjeant at arms attending this House, have leave to appear and defend the action brought against him by Thomas Burton Howard, for trespass." amendment proposed, to leave out from the word "That" to the end of the question, in order to add the words, "Thomas Burton Howard do attend at the bar of this house tomorrow,"—(Lord John Russell,)—instead thereof. Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question." The House divided: ayes 157, noes 84. Main question put: the House divided; ayes 135, noes 71.

## DEBATES.

Wednesday, March 15th.

## DOG CART BILL.

On the motion for going into committee on this bill, which would prevent the employment of dogs as beasts of burden, Mr BARCLAY proposed that it should be committed that day three months. He said that the bill was an arbitrary and aristocratic measure.

He contended that it would be doing great injustice to that humble class of traders who traveled about the country to vend their wares, but who, by this bill, would be thrown out of employment, because they could not continue their business without the assistance which they were accustomed to derive from their canine fellow-labourers [laughter]. The subject might be a subject of derision and laughter to some hon. gentlemen, but in those who would be deprived by the bill of the valuable services, the comfort, and assistance of their dogs, such treatment was calculated to excite sentiments of anything but respect for the legislation of parliament. He did hope that the House would hesitate before they deprived a numerous body of little traders of the comfort and assistance of these valuable animals.

Sir R. INGLIS observed, that if the law be justifiable which was lately passed to forbid the use of dogs for draught in London, the use of dogs for such a purpose ought equally to be prohibited in Manchester or Birmingham. Mr GRANTLEY BERKELEY objected that the measure would lead to an extensive massacre of dogs in the country. Mr HUME thought it unreasonable that, in thinly-peopled places, a poor man should be precluded from making out his livelihood by the assistance of a dog. Lord A. LENNOX supported the bill as necessary for putting an end to the cruel tasks now imposed on dogs of draught by their masters, who are for the most part reckless, unfeeling fellows. The House divided, sustaining the bill, which accordingly went through the committee.

## PRIVILEGE.

The adjourned debate, on the motion of the SOLICITOR-GENERAL, that the Serjeant-at-arms should have leave to defend the action of Mr Howard, Stockdale's attorney, for false imprisonment, was resumed by Lord JOHN RUSSELL. He desired that the clerk should read a resolution, formerly passed by the House, declaring any such action to be a breach of privilege: and this having been done, the noble Lord expressed his regret at the faint interest taken in the subject, as evidenced by the thin attendance of the House; and his opinion that if it should be deemed right to authorise a plea to the action, such autho-

rity should not be given with so little of solemnity, nor with the resolution, just read, still remaining on the journals. He admitted that there were precedents for pleading in such a case. He believed, too, that should the Speaker send a letter to the judges, informing them that the question was one of privilege—which appeared to have been the ancient course—the judges would at this day consider themselves bound to proceed as if no such letter had been written. Sir John Campbell, when attorney-general, had certainly advised, in Stockdale's case, that to plead was the only way of making the privilege available in a court of law, and the Sergeant accordingly pleaded. Sir R. Peel had at that time expressed his regret that the House had consented so to plead. There was much difficulty, however, in the circumstances; and at a further stage of the proceeding the sheriffs, who at first had been innocent persons, became involved in the embarrassment. He felt the inconveniences arising out of these things, but, on the other hand, there were great and serious objections to the course proposed by the Solicitor-general. That course, instead of determining the existence of the extent of the privileges of the House, would thereafter place the power of determining them in the hands of the courts of law. Look at its practical effects.

His hon. friend the member for Finsbury made a motion for an inquiry into the conduct of one of the judges, to which the house did not assent. Suppose, however, that the majority happened to be the other way, and that the House consented to go into the inquiry. In order to make out the case clearly, would it not be important that the House should be the sole judge as to the manner in which it should proceed to examine witnesses? If one of these witnesses should withhold his testimony, or prevaricate, and that the House proceeded to commit him, what would be the result? If the House consented to yield the decision of its privileges to the courts of law, might not advantage be at once taken of the circumstance? Might not the prisoner be set free on the ground that the House had in the commitment exceeded its privileges, and the judges be thus saved from all inquiry? It would be seen, therefore, that it was no light matter for the House to consent to refer the decision of its privileges to the courts of law.

If the judges were to go on extending their own jurisdiction and contracting that of parliament, the privileges of the House might at length be brought into serious danger. That sort of encroachment seemed to be actually going on. Lord Chief Justice Denman evinced a disposition to deal lightly with the opinions of former judges on this subject, and the reliance to be placed on past authorities in favour of privilege was thus considerably shaken. He suggested that the House should call the plaintiff to the bar, and inquire on what ground his action was founded—whether he disputed the validity of the warrant, or only complained of some excess in its execution. Some plaintiffs might indeed persist, notwithstanding an admonition at the bar of this assembly; but persons in general would probably be deterred by the authority of the House. At all events, if it was intended that a plea should be put in, he thought the existing resolution ought to be rescinded. On the whole, he would venture to move that Mr Howard be directed to attend the House tomorrow.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL declared that he had never receded from his opinion, that the House is the sole judge of its own privileges; but he thought it a question of some difficulty how those privileges should be exercised; and he could not approve the resort to such a measure as the commitment of clerks and witnesses. He gave a narration of the circumstances which preceded and accompanied the former action by Howard, explaining that the question in that action was merely whether the officers had committed an excess in their execution of the warrants; that the validity of the warrant itself was not questioned at all; and that he himself, therefore, in conducting that cause, had made, and could have made, no surrender of the privileges of the House, as it had been intimated in his absence on a former evening that he had done. The object of the present action was money; and if the House should call the plaintiff to its bar, as Lord John Russell proposed, that plaintiff would rejoice at a circumstance so likely to increase his damages, and probably endeavour to induce the House to commit him, which would aggravate those damages still further. The history of the actions arising out of Stockdale's case was rather instructive.

In the first of them, the question of privilege not having been raised, the jury considered the character of Stockdale's publication, and gave a verdict against him. In the next action, the question of privilege was mooted; it failed, and the jury gave £100 damages. After the commitment by the House of Commons, there was yet another action tried; and the damages then given were £600.

Could it be doubted on what ground the jury gave these progressive verdicts? Sir T. Wilde had argued that you must commit everybody; that if the sheriffs and civil authorities continued to execute the judgments of the courts of law, the Secretary of State must counteract them by the military power; and so the question of privilege was to be settled by something very like civil war! The course most consistent with the true dignity of the House would be to disdain the petty resource of commitment, and plead to the action.

Mr ELPHINSTONE wished the legislature would provide that the Speaker should have the power of issuing an injunction to stay such actions. Mr BORTHWICK supported the motion of the Solicitor-general. He thought it unbecoming the dignity of the House to assert itself by breaking flies on the wheel.

Sir R. PEEL said, that as the field for inquiry on this subject had been exhausted, the government had thought it better to propose a specific course, than to repeat the general one of appointing a committee. The first inclination of his mind had been not to plead; but the subject was full of difficulty, increased not only by public feeling, but by the difference of opinion in the House itself; and after the precedent set, in our time, by the late Attorney-general, himself a strenuous advocate of privilege, it would have been

too much to enter on a new series of commitments. If the House did propose to do that, they ought, in his judgment, to deal no more with inferior agents but proceed directly against higher parties. At the end of the session, however, the commitments would expire, and then, in the recess, the action would go on again. On the whole, therefore, he could not take the responsibility of recommending it to the House to depart from the late precedent. Still there was no man more deeply convinced than himself that all the privileges which the House had claimed in the course of these actions are essential to the well-being of the state. He thought it somewhat dangerous, he must confess, to leave any question upon this subject to the courts of law, in whose disposition to support the privileges of the House he had not very implicit confidence; and even though those courts might recognise the principle of the particular privilege which might at any time be in question, they were likely to take so narrow and technical a view as to the correctness of the mode in which it had been exercised, as materially to impair its practical utility. The recent decision at law respecting the privilege of printing, which had been deemed to require the passing of an act of parliament to correct it, was strong exemplification of the insecurity of parliamentary privilege in the hands of the judges. The House might, if it pleased, both plead and commit; but this was a double course which he could not approve, and which he thought public opinion would not sanction, especially as there was no precedent for such concurrent proceeding. The noble lord proposed to bring this plaintiff to the bar; but it was not prudent to do that, unless the House were prepared to commit him. If the decision at law should be adverse, it might then be expedient to apply to the legislature for an act confirming and extending the necessary powers of the House, and supplying more especially the defect of its authority during vacation.

Mr C. W. WYNN, and Mr ESCOTT supported the Solicitor-general.

Sir T. WILDE thought it now but too clear that the privilege of that House must not look for its defence to governments, since each successive government shrank from the responsibility of asserting that privilege; henceforth it could have no security but from the House itself. He admitted the difficulties urged by Sir R. Peel; but Sir R. Peel's own speech on a former occasion was the best answer to his speech tonight. Was the House in such a position now, that it could no longer support its privileges? If so, it was not for want of power in the House, but of spirit in its members. It was said, if you are to struggle for privilege, wait for some occasion worthy of such a conflict. But was it wise in the mean time to accumulate the precedents which would fetter you in that struggle? And then it was recommended that the House should get an act of parliament to define its privileges!

"Whom did the House of Commons represent? Who had confided to them important legislative trusts? The country. The great interests of the country ought to be their pride. Do not bring forward trumpery precedents, and adhere to them, when such a course would be highly detrimental to the interests of the nation (Cheers). What was the remedy proposed? Some had argued that it was our duty to define the privileges of the House by an act of parliament. They who thus argued knew very little of the matter. It was not in their power to define the privileges of parliament."

Why, the privileges of parliament were incapable of any such definition; it was indispensable for the public safety that they should remain undefined. We were living in the midst of dangerous associations; the Attorney-general had but just returned from the prosecution of one of them, having so conducted that case as to have won the approbation of all men—even of the defendants themselves; and what necessities might not such associations introduce, requiring intervention and investigation by the House of Commons? When you had got your act of parliament, what would be your security that the House of Lords on appeal would interpret it in your sense? Legislate upon one privilege, and you would be obliged to legislate upon another, and so on till you should be questioned in some privilege of real importance, and then you would have the House of Lords refusing to concur with you in legislation. All the great legal names of our history, except that of Lord Holt, were on the side of privilege; and it therefore seemed safe in 1814 for the House to plead; but it was never really safe to depart from a great principle. The modern precedents should not be taken as our guides, but as our warnings. He enlarged upon the danger of allowing the acts of the House to be questioned by technical arguments in courts of law; the consequences whereof would be, that the Speaker would soon have to draw his warrants with a special pleader at his elbow.

What was the danger of submitting the privileges of the House to courts of law? In reply, he would ask, what had been the means of supporting the constitution? Was it not the independence of the House of Commons, on the one hand, against the attempt at encroachment on the part of the House of Lords, and on the other against the attempts made by courts of law? The independent power of that House had been the means of saving the constitution of the country, and by pleading now in the court of law they were altering and deteriorating that constitution. The House was equal to the House of Lords, and above the courts of law; by the course it was proposed they should now take, they would make it subordinate to both—a course which was against all experience, and one which would inflict a deadly wound upon the constitution. The right hon. baronet said, when a time of great excitement arose, then the question might be tried and settled—then would be the time to make a stand. He (Sir T. Wilde) entirely differed from the right hon. baronet—if it was not fit to make the stand now, when would it be?

The practice of commitment, which was treated as so unworthy a means, was the one great resort upon which all the courts of the realm depended for the maintenance of their authority. Sir T. Wilde, after an examination of cases showing that no court of Westminster hall permits any other court to question its process, argued warmly that it was the duty of the House to commit the present plaintiff, and the duty of the prime minister to undertake the

responsibility of acting with firmness on this important matter.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL regretted that Sir T. Wilde, in his long and elaborate speech, had suggested to the House no way of extricating itself from the admitted difficulties. For his own part, he estimated as highly as any man the importance of its privileges, but he did not consider himself to be impairing them by the course he now proposed, with a full sense of his own responsibility. What he wanted Sir T. Wilde to tell the House was, how would he practically deal with the action? Would he begin by summoning to the bar the under-sheriff who might preside in executing the writ of inquiry? and, if so, could he help summoning also the jurors who should have assessed the damages? This House had tried their power of commitment upon Stockdale; and it had been ineffectual. Lord John Russell had contended for calling Howard to this bar. Suppose Howard, then, to say his action was brought because the arrest was without authority, or because there was some excess in its execution, would the noble lord propose to commit in both cases? — or in either? — and which? He asked this because the action for excess subjected the warrant to the cognisance of the Queen's Bench just as much as the action for want of authority. He concluded by exhorting the House to sanction their officer in the only plain and practical course — that of pleading to the action.

Lord HOWICK said, that the Solicitor-general affirmed the privileges of the House, and yet denied the power of the House to enforce them. It was proposed, first, to plead, and then, if the decision should be adverse, to introduce a legislative measure. He found fault with the course taken by the House on former occasions, and only regretted that he himself had deferred to the authority of lawyers.

Mr T. DUNCOMBE recommended it to the House to maintain its privileges with firmness.

After a few words from Sir R. INGLIS and Mr HARDY, the House divided on Lord J. Russell's amendment:—

Against it .....	157
For it .....	84
Majority against it .....	
Another division followed, on the original motion:—	73
For it .....	135
Against it .....	71
Majority for it .....	

Thursday, March 16th.

COMPLETE SUFFRAGE.

Mr S. CRAWFORD complained of the proceeding of yesterday, when the House was unexpectedly counted out. He had never witnessed such a course in his parliamentary life. A House had been formed, apparently in opposition to the wish of the government, and after some of the members had remained a short time in their seats, they dropped away; but when he saw the Premier arrive, he (Mr S. Crawford) was in hopes that it would be the signal for rallying the ministerial party. On the contrary, even the right honourable baronet was deserted [laughter], and a desire to have the House counted seemed to be felt by the Premier himself, although he would not say that the House was counted at his instance. He (Mr S. Crawford) had expected that his motion would be opposed, but he had not expected that a large mass of the working population of the country would have been in this way insulted. The object was to Burke his proposition, but he should nevertheless persevere, and for the purpose of bringing it forward, he would adopt the constitutional course of making the complaints of the people heard before the supplies were voted. He would therefore fix his motion for the next supply day — Friday.

Sir R. PEEL was surprised at the attack made upon him, because he had rather looked for praises from the honourable member, for being in his place for the discharge of his public duties. He had come down as usual at half-past four, and he assured the honourable member that his impressions were totally unfounded. He hoped that he would not fix his motion for Friday, as the bill for promoting public education was put down for that day, and it would be most inconvenient to interfere with its progress.

Mr S. CRAWFORD did not wish to put the government to any inconvenience, and was ready to take Monday, or any other day, when he could be assured a fair hearing.

Sir R. PEEL was ready to do all he could for the honourable member if he would take a notice day.

Mr S. CRAWFORD admitted that he had been wrong in imputing any blame in the affair of yesterday to the right honourable baronet. He finally determined to fix his motion for the 30th inst.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS BILL.

This bill was resumed in committee.

Lord HOWICK, on the 57th clause, which provides a gross remuneration of 200 guineas to each revising barrister, took occasion to state his objections to the general constitution of their tribunal. He was persuaded that public confidence did not attend it, and would recommend a court of a few well-paid and able judges, who should go circuit. Sir JAMES GRAHAM objected to the turmoil which would be constantly kept up throughout the country by a circuit necessarily lasting a great part of every year; and, con-

sidering how many disputable points would be cut off by the explanatory clauses of this bill, and how great a security would be afforded by the appellate tribunal which this bill was to erect, he trusted that the House would see fit to give the measure a fair trial. Mr BERNAL complained that when a couple of revising barristers visited a town, where they sat in two different courts, they were apt, on the same point, to come to opposite decisions. Sir G. GREY avowed his distrust of the inexperienced lawyers, from among whom many of the revising barristers must be selected. A little further conversation followed, but the clause was passed.

The clauses constituting an appeal court, to consist of occasional judges, were disapproved by Mr BERNAL and others, who, for the most part, declared in favour of a fixed tribunal, but to this Sir JAMES GRAHAM objected, on the ground that there would not be occupation enough for more than a few days in the year. It being suggested that the legislature would do better to vest the jurisdiction of appeal in the judges of the superior courts, than, as proposed by this bill, in judges to be nominated by the two chief justices and the chief baron, Sir James Graham agreed to withdraw the clauses relating to the appellate tribunal, and introduce others, by which the jurisdiction of appeal from the revising barristers should be committed to the judges of Westminster hall.

The 76th clause, which provides that joint occupiers, although they may have changed their lands, shall retain their votes for counties, where the joint rent is, and has throughout been, sufficient to make a £50 tenancy for each, was opposed by Lord HOWICK, who moved that the right of voting in respect of these successive occupations should be limited to a single tenant in each case.

A short discussion took place, in which Colonel SIBTHORP, Lord EBRINGTON, Sir J. GRAHAM, Mr HUME, and Lord HOWICK, took part; which terminated in the withdrawal of the amendment, and passing of the clause. The most notable feature of the discussion was an announcement from Colonel Sibthorpe, who seized the opportunity of claiming for himself the credit of having originally introduced into the Reform bill the clause which the present Duke of Buckingham, when in the house of Commons, had adopted, and which now went by the name of the Chandos clause. He did not think he ought to lose his fair credit.

The 84th clause, abolishing the question hitherto put under the Reform act to the voter at the poll, whether he retains the qualification for which he stands registered, was much commended by several members; but this abolition being accompanied with an enactment that the voter in a city or borough may be asked whether he continues to reside therein, or within seven miles thereof, it was objected by Mr CHRISTIE that in all cases of electors who had quitted the place, the evils of the third question would thus be kept in operation. The expense connected with out-voters was no doubt an evil, but not an evil to be compared with the fraud, uncertainty, and cost, which an inquiry into residence would occasion. He proposed, therefore, to exclude this requisition of residence. Sir JAMES GRAHAM cited an opinion of Mr Tierney upon the great importance of excluding out-voters. If, in addition to your abolishing the tie of qualification by property, you were now to abolish also the tie of residence, thus dissolving all local connexion between the voter and the borough, you would let in a class of voters who would almost uniformly be venal. Sir G. GREY answered, that the admission of the few registered men who might have become non-resident during one year would have very little effect in multiplying objectionable voters. Sir JAMES GRAHAM promised that if the principle of requiring residence should be affirmed, he would endeavour so to modify the form of the question to the voter as to remove the difficulty. Lord HOWICK answered, that the principle itself turned very much upon the form of that question. Mr CHRISTIE eventually, at the recommendation of several members, postponed any division for the present, Sir J. GRAHAM assuring the House that should his mind be satisfied of the expediency of dispensing with residence also, he should think himself bound, notwithstanding any taunt, to act upon his real conviction.

The 91st clause having proposed that election committees should have power to reverse the decisions of the revising barristers and of the court of Appeal, Mr CHRISTIE objected to such an enactment, which he thought would go far to annul all the benefit derivable from the appointment of revising barristers and of an appeal court. If their decisions should be reversible by a committee, where would be the desired uniformity of the law? He would rather propose, since it was deemed necessary to reserve an ultimate power to this assembly, that all decisions of the judges of appeal should be laid on its table, and have no force until after a certain time should have elapsed without disapproval by the House. Sir J. GRAHAM felt, that as the tribunal of appeal was now intended to be composed of judges of the superior courts, it would be proper to reconsider the present clause, and not to leave the decisions of such a judicature, upon questions of law, reversible by the House of Commons.

The bill and schedules having been gone through, Mr W. COWPER moved a clause, providing that the poll should be open but one day in counties, as is already the law with respect to the poll in cities and boroughs. He showed, from various examples, that the numbers polled on the second day are generally a very small proportion of the whole. Sir J. GRAHAM acknowledged the fitness of taking the poll in the shortest time that was compatible with the fair convenience of the voters. His impression was against the present proposal; but he should like to

know the opinions of the county members. He rather believed that the freeholders had, in general, no very great desire to press to the poll; least of all should they be obliged to give up their markets for the privilege of exercising their franchise; but if a choice of two days were afforded them, they were less likely to leave that franchise unexercised. Mr CHRISTIE opposed the limitation of the poll, as inconvenient to the farmers. Mr HUME said that some time ago, when it was proposed to limit the poll for counties, the House had agreed to wait and see how the limitation would work in the boroughs; and it had there succeeded perfectly. There was a class of voters who always hung back to be bribed, and their object would be much impeded by the conclusion of the poll in one day. Such voters were common in boroughs, and he believed there was now a good deal of bribery in counties too. A sharp and general discussion ensued. On the one side it was maintained that the restriction to one day would lead to intimidation, and offer various obstructions to the properly conducting the election; and on the other, that the present system offers temptation to bribery. Dr ELPHINSTONE argued that the expenses of all kinds, particularly of refreshments, were almost doubled by the protraction to the second day. Lord WORSLEY believed that treating was a growing evil in counties. Mr B. DENISON thought a single day would suffice for the West Riding of Yorkshire. Mr BLACKSTONE thought government might, at the next general election, require two whole days to get the farmers in their interest up to the polling booth. After a few more words from several county members, the Committee divided, and rejected Mr Cowper's limitation by 143 to 66.

Some clauses were then brought up by Sir JAMES GRAHAM to prevent personation of voters. These sections extending *only* to all voters then living or those dead, a case was suggested where *ideal* voters were put upon the register, and represented by real persons at the poll. Sir James Graham said, he certainly had not thought of that case, and must leave it to be provided for by any member who thought such a provision necessary.

The clauses were passed, and the bill ordered to be reported.

Monday, March 20.

KNUTSFORD GAOL.

On the motion for going into a committee of supply, Mr THOMAS DUNCOMBE adverted to the subject of the treatment of the chartist prisoners in Knutsford gaol, and read a letter from the chaplain, complaining of the conduct of the magistrates towards him, in consequence of the information which he had communicated to the prison inspector, sent down specially by the Home office to make inquiry.

They (the magistrates) then said they had come to the determination to recommend to the quarter sessions at Chester to remove him. He asked what were the charges against him? They said none at all. They also said they had no improper conduct to allege against him. They stated they had no ground of complaint, but that he had stated to the inspector what ought to have been stated to the magistrates when it occurred. Mr Lloyd, one of the magistrates, had then said they found it was impossible for the gaoler and he to go on together; that they could not do without the gaoler, but they could do without him, and that if he remained the gaol would soon be no gaol at all. The writer went on to state, that no imputation had been cast on his character, no charge had been made of neglect of duty, and yet he had thus been threatened with an application to the magistrates in quarter sessions for his removal.

Mr TATTON EGERTON said, that the chaplain had for several years kept a private memorandum book of what was going on in the gaol, instead of communicating what he thought to be wrong to the magistrates, who were anxious that all the facts of the case should be made known.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM complained that this proceeding was premature, as it was his intention to lay the report of the prison inspector on the table of the house. The home secretary had no control over the appointment or removal of the chaplains of gaols, which was vested in the magistrates.

SUPPLY.

The House having resolved itself into a committee of supply, a vote was taken for £18,000,000 to meet exchequer bills. Messrs HUME, BOWRING, and WILLIAMS, complained of the high rate of interest on exchequer bills; and seeing that the current rate for money in the market was not more than one percent, thought that the interest on such securities ought not to exceed 1½d. per day. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER replied, that the rate on public securities could not be arranged with reference to the fluctuating and temporary rate in the market.

On the commissariat estimate Mr HUME strenuously urged an abatement of our colonial expenses. So long as the present large military establishment should be kept up in the colonies, these estimates were perhaps incapable of reduction; but his own conviction was, that those establishments were excessive and extravagant, and ought to be reduced in favour of the people at home, who were wanting food. He would recommend a finance committee. Sir R. PEEL said, that if the people were in the most prosperous condition, he should object to any needless establishment in the colonies; but that, on the other hand, a necessary colonial establishment was not to be reduced because the revenue at home was not in a flourishing state. A finance committee was not so competent to judge of colonial necessities as the responsible ministry, which had the aid, information, and advice, of the colonial governors and authorities. Mr HUME admitted that a force was requisite in China, and likewise at the Cape; but what did England want with 10,000 men in the Canadas, 2,000 in Nova Scotia, and 350 in Newfoundland? Every colony ought to be its own protector.

Mr HUME complained of the amount of half-pay, and objected to some other particular items in this estimate. Mr WILLIAMS thought that those who voted for such estimates as these could have no sympathy with the suffering people. Mr BERNAL



vindicated himself, and those who thought with him, from the imputation of wanting sympathy with the people. If gentlemen could see the returns of sickness and casualty on foreign service, they would not think the reliefs too large. Mr HUME desired to have the inequality of taxation between the rich and the poor redressed. In the present state of things, the chief taxation was on the consumption of the poor. The landlords, who had been living so expensively, must come down; so must the receivers of official salaries. The vote was then taken.

Sir G. CLERK brought on the civil contingencies; but Mr HUME, as these accounts had not been delivered to members till Friday last, desired further time to consider them. After a little talk, Sir R. PEEL acceded. Mr WILLIAMS believed that the estimates of this session had been brought on more rapidly than usual. Sir R. PEEL answered, that the reason of the rapidity with which these estimates had come on was the rapidity with which the prior votes had been granted, which he supposed had been owing to the surprise and satisfaction felt by the House at the extensive reductions effected by government. Mr HUME protested that his own forbearance had not arisen from any surprise or satisfaction of that sort, but from the persuasion that as most of the members of opposition absented themselves upon those estimates, he should have had little or no chance of succeeding in a resistance to any vote.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

ALLEN LAW.—Mr Hutt moved, on Wednesday, for a select committee to inquire into the state of the law affecting aliens and other residents in this country, not native-born subjects of the British crown, with a view to alterations for facilitating the naturalisation of foreigners. The motion was agreed to.

FUGITIVE CRIMINALS.—A convention entered into between Queen Victoria and the King of the French, for the mutual surrender of fugitives from justice, was laid on the table of each house on Tuesday.

ROWLAND HILL.—Mr Hutt has given notice of his intention to move for copies of the correspondence that may have taken place relative to Mr Rowland Hill's appointment and removal from the post office.

THE OPIUM TRADE.—Lord Ashley has given notice of the following motion for Tuesday, the 28th inst. :—“That it is the opinion of this House that the continuance of the trade in opium, and the monopoly of its growth in the territories of British India, is destructive of all relations of amity between England and China, injurious to the manufacturing interests of this country by the annihilation of legitimate commerce, and utterly inconsistent with the honour and duties of a Christian kingdom; and that steps be taken as soon as possible, with due regard to the rights of government and individuals, to abolish the evil.”

EDUCATION.—Mr Ewart has given notice of a motion for the 23rd inst., to consider the expediency of extending the benefits of education more generally among the rural as well as the manufacturing population, and of seeing how far the ancient charitable endowments for education can be adapted to the exigency of modern times.

THE MAGISTRACY.—On the 28th inst. Mr T. Duncombe will move for a select committee to inquire into the manner in which justice was administered by a portion of the magistracy during the disturbances that took place last year in the manufacturing districts.

EDUCATION AND FACTORY BILL.—On Friday Mr Acland inquired, with reference to the business for Friday next, whether it was the intention of the Right Hon. Home Secretary that the portions of the bill relating to education, and to the management of children in factories, should be separately discussed. Sir J. Graham intended to move the second reading of the bill on Friday next, and he hoped that it would not be opposed. He had not heard any objection to the principle of the measure in any quarter. Mr Hawes said that he felt objections to the principle of the education clauses, although he admitted that they were an improvement. The country had not yet had sufficient time to consider the measure, and wished for a further postponement. Sir J. Graham thought that ample time would have been allowed by Friday next, and it was, therefore his intention to persevere. Mr M. Philips observed that he had heard no objection from the manufacturers respecting the factory regulations, but he had heard some to the part of the bill relating to the education of children; many dissenters entertained conscientious scruples, and in his opinion it would be better to divide the bill. He made this suggestion without the slightest wish to defeat the bill. Mr Hawes believed that the country was not yet fully aware of the the nature of the bill. He wished the further proceeding to be postponed till after Easter.

COMPLETE SUFFRAGE.—The following members were present in the house on Thursday night, when it was counted out on Mr Sharman Crawford's motion :—

Aglionby, Henry A.	Knight, Henry Gally
Aldam, William	Langton, William Gore
Barnard, Edward George	Lincoln, Earl of
Blake, Sir Valentine	Napier, Sir Charles
Bowring, Dr	Paget, Lord Alfred
Crawford, W. Sharman	Peehell, Captain
Douglas, Sir Charles E.	Peel, Rt Hon. Sir Robert
Duncan, George	Philips, George R.
Duncombe, Thomas	Plunridge, Captain
Easthope, Sir John	Ross, David Robert
Gibson, Thomas Milner	Russell, Lord John
Gore, W. Ormsby	Strickland, Sir George
Greene, Thomas	Wallace, Robert
Hill, Lord Marcus	Ward, Henry George
Hindley, Charles	Yorke, Hon. Eliot Thomas

## ELECTION COMMITTEES.

NOTTINGHAM.—The committee appointed to inquire into the (two) petitions against the return of Mr Walter for Nottingham, met on Wednesday; Mr Hogg in the chair. Mr Austin and Mr Hildyard applied to defend the seat, and Mr Kingslake and Mr Boothby for the petitioners. Mr Kingslake opened the case. The grounds upon which the petitioners asked for the voiding of the seat were, first, that Mr Walter had, previously to the election, entered into a corrupt contract or compromise, which incapacitated him from holding the seat, although he did obtain a majority of votes at the election; secondly, that the election was voided by actual bribery, committed by the agents of Mr Walter; and, thirdly, that it was voided by reason of treating, carried on in a profligate and improper manner at the same election. In opening the case, Mr Kingslake said, that if those charges failed, he should contend that Mr Walter was not returned by a majority of legal votes. “On the part of Mr Sturge” (Mr Walter's opponent) he said, “there never was a more pure election; there was no treating, no bribery, no intimidation.” He described a curious method of attempting to disguise the treating among the poorer voters—

They were invited to meet at different public houses; when one of the partisans of Mr Walter took the chair; then some one, placed in the room, would call out “Billy, order some ale.” The Chairman would then indignantly exclaim—“How dare you address me in such a manner? Billy, indeed! I fine you half a gallon of ale.” The ale was brought; and as often as more was wanted, any person present had only to address the Chairman as “Billy,” and it was supplied. In fact, the word “Billy” was synonymous with half a gallon of ale.

The inquiry has been proceeding daily, and a vast amount of evidence has been given, proving the extent to which bribery was carried on, on the side of the tories. The case is not expected to close until tomorrow, when, if the committee act impartially, there is little doubt as to the decision to which they will come.

ATHLONE.—Simultaneously with the former, an inquiry is proceeding upon the last election at Athlone. The candidates in 1841 were Captain Beresford and Mr Farrell; Captain Beresford was returned; but the return was petitioned against, on the ground that the returning officer had improperly rejected a number of votes; and Captain Beresford was unseated by the election committee, in favour of Mr Farrell, leave being given to petition against the new member. Two petitions were accordingly presented, alleging bribery, treating, and the illegality of the votes constituting his apparent majority. Mr Farrell declared that he would not defend his seat; but other parties undertook that enterprise; and the committee now met to inquire into petitions against his return. This case was also proceeding on Tuesday.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, March 16.

The only topic that occupied the House was the law courts of Westminster. A conversational discussion took place, from which it appeared that the general feeling of the speakers was against the propriety of removing the courts of law from Westminster to a more central situation.

Friday, March 17.

A discussion took place on the presentation of a petition, by Lord STANHOPE, from the calico and stuff block printers of Lancashire and Cheshire, complaining of distress, which they vainly attributed to the extensive use of machinery. Lords BROUHAM and ASHBYTON ably exposed the fallacies urged against machinery, and affirmed that machinery, instead of lessening, tended in the long run to increase the amount of labour employed.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE moved for the production of the correspondence between the British merchants at Canton and Sir Henry Pottinger, and in so doing he pointed out the importance of a British judicial tribunal being erected in China. The Earl of ABERDEEN had no objection to the production of the correspondence. The possession of Hong Kong removed many of the difficulties which existed as to jurisdiction, but the government were waiting for additional information from Sir Henry Pottinger in order to guide them.

Monday, March 20th.

Lord DENMAN adverted to the opinions attributed to him by Sir Thomas Wilde in the debate on the privileges of the House of Commons, complaining that he was held up, in a report of the *Morning Chronicle*, as considering it of little importance whether or not licentious books were read in prisons. To this he gave an unqualified contradiction. Lord BROUGHAM produced a letter from Sir T. Wilde, in which he distinctly disclaimed the expressions attributed to him in the report; but declined to enter upon the general question which the judgment delivered by Lord Denman involved, except by reiterating his cordial acquiescence and approval. Lord CAMPBELL rejoiced in the disavowal by Sir T. Wilde of the charge against Lord Denman which the report had imputed to him, but agreed entirely in his opinion that the judgment which had occasioned so much controversy rested on a foundation wholly erroneous and contrary to law. It had been condemned by the most eminent lawyers on both sides; and, for himself, he gloried in having been a member of the House of Commons during the struggle in support of its privileges. Lord ABINGER denied that the bar unanimously condemned the judgment. After a few words from Lord DENMAN in reply, and from Lord BROUGHAM, the Duke of WELLINGTON, and Lord CAMPBELL, the subject dropped.

## The Complete Suffrage Movement.

The following business was transacted at the weekly meeting of the council, held at Birmingham, on Monday, Joseph Sturge, Esq., in the chair.

## TAVISTOCK ELECTION AND FUTURE CONTESTS.

The Chairman reported, that in pursuance of a letter which he had forwarded with the sanction of this council, Mr Vincent had visited the borough of Tavistock, for the purpose of advocating the principles of this Union during the election; and that on the earnest solicitation of the inhabitants, he had become a candidate for the representation of the borough. The election took place on Thursday last, and ended in the return of Mr Trelawney. The Chairman read a letter from Mr Vincent, the main facts of which are elsewhere given. The following is an extract :—

“An agent of the Duke of Bedford sat by the side of Trelawney to see the farmers as they came up to vote. The Bedford, Buller, and Trelawney interests, kept back some who were promised to vote for us, and forced others to vote for them. Everything went off in a peaceful manner. Trelawney is a highly respectable and amiable young man—and I hope much from him. He behaved in a most gentlemanly manner. After the election, the electors met, and formed an electoral club to watch the registry (they can put on at least 30 at once), and to take steps to secure the return of a complete suffrage member at the next election.”

Yours very respectfully,

“HENRY VINCENT.”

It was then resolved, “That this council, referring to the result of the late election for Tavistock, one of the closest of our agricultural boroughs, see no reason to despair of success in any borough, and they feel convinced that quiet, inexpensive, but determined preparation for an electoral contest, will in a majority of our borough constituencies, and even in some of our counties, terminate in triumphant success.”

Resolved—“That it be recommended to the friends of complete suffrage in every borough, to organise a plan to collect gradually a sufficient fund to cover the legal expenses of an election—whenever such may occur, to watch over the registration of voters, to put upon the lists the names of all, holding complete suffrage principles, who are legally entitled to the franchise, and to take such practical steps as may tend to facilitate and secure, at any future election, the return of complete suffrage candidates.”

## VISIT TO THE DISTRICTS.

Resolved—“That Mr Sturge be requested, at his earliest convenience, to make a personal visit to the head quarters of each district into which, for the purpose of complete suffrage agitation, the kingdom has been divided; and, if possible, by private application and converse, to secure the services of suitable gentlemen in each district, to form an election committee for the district; the business of which shall be to look out for candidates, residing in the neighbourhood, and arrange for their early introduction to the notice of borough constituencies, so as to be ready for action whenever a vacancy may occur.”

W. S. CRAWFORD, ESQ., M.P., AND THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The following letter from W. S. Crawford, Esq., was read :—

“London, March 18, 1843.

“DEAR FRIEND—The public papers have already informed your council of what your personal presence had before made you aware—that the House, after being formed on Thursday last, was counted out—and that in this way the motion I was to have made fell to the ground. The newspapers will have also acquainted you with the discussion on that subject which took place yesterday evening between Sir R. Peel and me. Of this a full report is given in the *Times* newspaper, to which I refer you. If I could have attached to the government the charge of wilfully producing this result, I should have felt myself justified in bringing on the question by moving it as an amendment on the supplies; but Sir R. Peel disclaimed being a party to it, and I obtained an engagement from Sir James Graham, that on whatever day I should again bring on the question, the government would take the usual means on their part to secure and keep a House. Under this engagement, my notice stands for Thursday, the 30th instant, being the first motion day on which there was any chance of an opportunity of getting on. I felt it was my best course to accept the offer of the government, because I have information which I cannot doubt, that the most strenuous efforts were also made by a portion of another party, not in connexion with the government, to Burke the motion by counting out the House. It, therefore, would be unjust for me to impute to the government the whole blame, and on that ground to interrupt the government business, when I know that others were in greater degree implicated in the transaction than the government; and the government had disclaimed the intention to offer any insult to the people, and were willing on a future occasion to do all that I could fairly require.

“Permit me to make a few remarks on the present position of your cause. In the House of Commons, you have the government, and the whole body of their general supporters, in direct and openly avowed hostility. You have the leading portion of the whig party, if possible, more hostile in spirit than the tory party, but desirous not to have questions raised which will compel them to manifest that hostility. You have a small party of honest friends to the people, anxious to support their cause—who would vote for leave to bring in the bill and discuss the question, although many of them are not at this moment prepared to pledge themselves to go the full length of your demands on every point. This is the position in which your question stands in the House of Commons. Still you desire, and in my opinion properly desire, to have the question brought forward. But, it will be asked, for what purpose? We know that the motion will be rejected by an overwhelming majority; but then, if I rightly understand your object, it is this—you rely upon the strength and justice of your cause, and therefore you wish that your advocates should enter the lists with your opponents, and by discussion, in the most important arena for such discussion, show the power of truth and the weakness of the arguments opposed to it. There is another object, as I conceive, is having a discussion in parliament. As I have already stated, there are several true friends to the people who object to the extent of some of your propositions, and these members decline attending your meetings for this very reason. You have no other means of being made acquainted with their views or their objections except by the declaration of their sentiments in parliament; and I am convinced it would be your disposition, as well as that of the people generally, to consider, with every degree of respectful attention, any objection named by

those whom you deemed honestly attached to the advancement of public liberty. You wish, also, to show to the people the real amount of the number of members to be relied on in the house of Commons to support their just claims. There is no doubt it will manifest weakness, but it is right they should know the truth, and be thrown more completely on their own exertions. It is right they should know that nothing can be done in the house till, by union among themselves in their own sphere, they excite such a moral power in their favour as shall act upon the present elective body, and through them, upon their representatives in the house of Commons. At this present time the great mass of the middle classes are hostile to the object of admitting the working people to share of power; and even those of a higher class connected with that interest, although they may admit the propriety of the principle, are not zealous in its support, in consequence of the unnecessary offence given to them by some of the leaders of the chartist body. But after some time the middle classes will find that the power they thought they had obtained under the Reform act is slipping away from them—that the landed aristocracy are too powerful for them; and whenever the stroke of distress shall fall upon them with a sufficiently heavy hand, they will be compelled to court the aid of the people, and then a combination will be formed too important for any government or parliament to resist. The advancement or protraction of that combination will depend mainly on the line of conduct which the people shall adopt. There are means of working on the middle classes, as well as on the parliament, perfectly consistent with obedience to the laws, which would render the moral movement of the people irresistible, if carried on with abstinence from intemperance either of language or conduct, and with firmness and perseverance.

"I trust that good will arise out of the course pursued on this occasion by our opponents. The burking of this motion by the two great parties shows not only the disposition to avoid discussion—it shows a consciousness, on their part, that discussion would operate in favour of the cause. Therefore I maintain there is an additional inducement to force it on, with the least possible delay, in order to prove to the burkers that they shall not triumph. Those members who are zealous in the cause, I am convinced, will attend at any time fixed for bringing forward the measure. There are others who may be disposed to make excuses, but these are not the men the people want. The people require men, at this time, who will prove that they have some zeal in their cause, and they desire to know who these men are.

"It is proper I should state to you that several members had attended in order to make the House who were not present at the time of the count; but in justice to them I must say this cannot be imputed to them as a fault. After the House was made, the numbers had increased, and several members of our party had retired to the writing rooms to prepare their letters for post, relying that there was no danger till the public business should come on. They were not aware that the House was in progress of being counted out till after it was over. I have thought it my duty to communicate, without delay, to you and to the council, the present position of our proceedings; and I shall be happy to receive any communication of their wishes on the subject.

"I am, dear friend, yours very truly,  
WM SHARMAN CRAWFORD.

"To Joseph Sturge, Chairman."

It was then resolved—"That this council sympathise in the indignant feeling which has been excited in the minds of a large portion of their fellow-countrymen, against both the whig and tory parties in the house of Commons, in consequence of their having resorted to a mean subterfuge, and thereby prevented the introduction of a motion into that house, on the 16th inst, for 'securing the full representation of the people, and shortening the duration of parliaments,' by which a deliberate insult has been offered, not only to the whole working population of this empire, but to all those who claim justice in their behalf. And this council tender to W. S. Crawford, M.P., their warmest thanks for the firmness and judgment he displayed, in pursuing a course which has compelled the Premier to pledge himself to secure a House for discussing the motion on the 30th inst. This council fear that the votes upon that occasion may afford an additional proof of the utter hopelessness of any appeal to the House of Commons as at present constituted, but they trust the result, whatever it may be, will stimulate their friends throughout the United Kingdom in all cases of future elections, to select and support such candidates only as are favourable to complete suffrage."

LETTERS FROM MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT RESPECTING MR CRAWFORD'S MOTION.

"Ley hall, near Birmingham, 16th March, 1843.

"DEAR SIR—I have to acknowledge your favour of yesterday, with a memorial, signed by a number of electors, requesting my vote in favour of W. Sharman Crawford's motion of this evening; and I regret to say in reply, that the death of a near and very dear relative will prevent my being in town. Without being an advocate for universal suffrage under the present state of education and information, I am most decidedly of opinion that a very considerable extension of the suffrage is necessary to enable the people to return such men as understand their wants and interests, and can, and will extricate them from that miserable condition which they have been in for some years, and which is a disgrace to the last and to the present government, as well as to the nation at large. If I could have been present at the debate to-night, I should have expressed myself strongly upon the subject, but as it is I must take another opportunity of so doing; and I wonder how any one can be surprised that the working classes should resort to every justifiable means of obtaining relief from such unexampled and permanent privation.

"I remain, yours most faithfully,  
G. F. MUNTZ."

"University Club, March 16th, 1843.

"MY DEAR STURGE—I shall neither be doing justice to you nor to myself were I to omit saying that my temporary absence from the house this evening was purely accidental. I was called away for a short time to an anti-chamber committee, and on returning found the House over. I say this, because I should be extremely sorry even to seem inattentive to any request of yours. Yours truly,

"London, March 17th, 1843.

"SIR—I have the honour to acknowledge your note, dated the 14th inst, accompanying the bill for which Mr Sharman Crawford intended to move the House of Commons yesterday.

"I feel that it is due to the exertions and to the honest anxiety of so large a number of liberals, to give the most careful attention to the discussion of this measure, and I regret that it was prevented being brought forward last evening, by an insufficient attendance of members. But whilst I express this in great sincerity, I feel also that I best consult the respect which I have

for large portion of the liberal constituency of which you are the leader, by being frank in the expression of my dissent from their measure.

"I am sincerely desirous of extending the suffrage to the utmost limit that the progress of education will, according to my convictions, securely admit, and for relieving the constituent body from those measures of coercion which are the disgrace of our representative system. But yet, entertaining these sentiments with real anxiety, I am not prepared to go the length of universal suffrage, or of annual parliaments; and, therefore, I deem it right frankly to state, that I shall be obliged to oppose Mr Sharman Crawford's motion; and in conveying this declaration of my intention thus frankly, I hope I shall neither be considered to evince disrespect for the liberal body with whom it originates, nor disinclination to further the cause of improvement in the representation of the people. I have the honour to be, sir, with great respect, your most obedient humble servant,

"To Joseph Sturge, Esq. JOHN EASTHOPE."

CORRESPONDENCE—SIGNS OF ADVANCEMENT.

"A petition has been sent to Sharman Crawford, Esq., for presentation to the House of Commons, signed by 1,655 of the male inhabitants of this town.

"J. SOMERVILLE, Kendal."

"A copy of a requisition, signed by 64 electors of South Durham, resident in Darlington, has been forwarded to each of our representatives, accompanied by letters requesting them to support Mr S. Crawford's motion. One of the members, J. Bowes, Esq., has acknowledged the receipt of the requisition, &c., and states, he has received a print of the bill from the central association, which he 'cannot conscientiously support,' and begs to add 'that it is with much regret he finds himself compelled to differ in opinion, on this subject, from gentlemen whose wishes he regards with great respect.'

"We are doing what we can to propagate suffrage principles by means of tracts; we have had a quantity of Mr Spencer's, which are read with avidity; we have also ordered an assortment from the depositary in London, which we intend for distribution.

"W. HERON, Darlington."

"Our friend Mr Tullis, having returned from a short continental tour, we held a meeting last night, to receive his report of the late conference. I think it was the best meeting we have had, and the cause is evidently making progress. A vote of thanks to Mr Tullis, and approving of the conduct of the council of the Union, and the delegates who adhered to them, was agreed to unanimously; and after speeches, both from the complete suffragists and those who took an active part in the former chartist movement, a complete and thorough union of the two parties was accomplished. We have agreed to hold monthly meetings during the summer, for hearing a lecture on some interesting political topic, and diffusing sound information. This will keep the matter alive, and, I hope, gradually draw more of the middle classes to our standard.

"March 18, 1843. J. G. STUART, Markinch."

A letter was read from Charles Westerton, Knightsbridge, containing the willingness of the editor of the *Sentinel* to insert any accounts of the proceedings of the Union in that paper.

Letters were read from H. L. Edgar, Coventry; Joseph Graham, Alnwick; and C. E. Rawlins, Liverpool; with applications and remittances for tracts.

Letters were also read from John Childs, Bungay; Frederick Warren, Manchester; S. Jarvis, London; T. Spencer, Cockermouth; J. B. Harvey, Colchester; George Hilson, Jedburgh; John Hastie, Doncaster; H. O., Newport, Monmouthshire.

IPSWICH.—On Thursday evening, a lecture upon complete suffrage was delivered by the Rev. T. Spencer, A.M., at the Ipswich theatre. Of all the questions that now agitate the public mind, this one unquestionably ranks first in importance; and it is necessary that the arguments by which it is supported should be fairly and fully canvassed, and thoroughly understood. At the late period of the week at which this lecture was delivered, it would be impossible to do justice by compressing Mr Spencer's lucid and striking arguments into the space we should have been enabled to devote to them this week, and therefore are compelled to defer our report until our next publication, when we shall place it before our readers with a view not to its hasty perusal, but in order that they may study it, and more fully appreciate the excellent principles therein promulgated. The formation of an electors' league in this town, pledging the parties signing it, to support such candidates only who will carry out these principles, imperatively demands a calm and attentive consideration of the question on the part of the constituency—*Suffolk Chronicle*. A correspondent says they are "working their way slowly and surely, but encounter much opposition from the whig party. They feel that we shall not be cajoled at another election, as we were at the former, when the candidates signed the declaration, and have since told us that they did not know what they signed."

TAUNTON.—Memorials were forwarded on the 14th instant to the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere and Sir T. E. Colebrook, Bart, requesting their attendance in the house of Commons when Mr Sharman Crawford's motion for a full representation of the people is brought forward, also respectfully requesting them to support the same. The memorials were signed by one hundred and nine electors of great respectability; and by far the greater part of whom would not even have entertained the idea of signing such a document twelve months since. Thus are the evils of class legislation furthering the progress of opinion. The names of several other electors known to be favourable to the principles comprehended in Mr Crawford's motion would have been appended to the memorials had they not been from home; others would have signed had they not been under the influence of intimidation.

BRISTOL.—A requisition to the following effect, and signed by 106 electors of this city, has been forwarded to the Hon. Mr Berkeley, by the society of the Complete Suffrage Union:—"To the Hon. F. H. F. Berkeley, M.P. We, the undersigned electors of the city of Bristol, respectfully and urgently request that you will attend in parliament, and support the motion of which W. Sharman Crawford, Esq., has given notice 'for leave to bring in a bill to secure the representation of the whole people, and to shorten the duration of parliament.'"*Bristol Mercury*.

SIGNS OF PROGRESS.—The complete suffrage question continues to make progress. Our Huddersfield correspondent informs us that one hundred and thirty electors of that borough have transmitted a requisition to their member, desiring him to attend in his place in parliament and support Mr Sharman Crawford when he brings forward his motion for complete suffrage. A similar requisition has been sent from Bradford to our two members. It was dispatched to London on Tuesday morning, and requests that the gentlemen to whom it is addressed will attend in their places and give Mr Crawford every assistance in their power. The requisition is signed by nearly three hundred electors out of about five hundred who were waited upon. These facts are sufficient to warrant the assertion that the suffrage question makes progress.—*Bradford Observer*.

NOTTINGHAM.—The complete suffrage festival, in honour of the 1801 electors who voted for the return of Joseph Sturge, Esq., and in furtherance of the principles of the association, will take place on Monday (March 20), in the Exchange hall. A most interesting meeting is confidently expected.—*Notts Review*.

LEEDS.—The *Leeds Times* says:—"The suffrage is indeed the question of questions—and we can have no reforms worthy the name until it be extended to the entire people. We are glad to state that the suffrage reformers of Leeds are again in the field. They have opened a news room, are now organising their forces, and have determined to hold a public demonstration on Easter Tuesday next. We trust their efforts to promote the principles of complete suffrage will meet with the best support of the public."

"We have much pleasure in announcing that the members of this association intend opening their new room, over Mr Powley's hat shop, in Kirkgate, on Wednesday evening next, when an address will be delivered by the Rev. J. E. Giles, on the principles and objects of the society. It must be gratifying to the complete suffragists to know that on this occasion these great and just principles will meet with so able an expositor as the reverend gentleman; and we cannot refrain from hoping that a strong and durable impulse will be given to the public mind with reference to the subject. These principles must prevail; they are too deeply and widely rooted in the public mind ever to be eradicated; they have a principle of vitality in them which will defy all efforts to extinguish it."

CHELTENHAM.—The memorial to the Hon. C. Berkeley, member for Cheltenham, requesting him to support Mr S. Crawford's motion, was signed by 103 parliamentary electors of the borough. Mr Berkeley replied in a very uncourteous manner, concluding—"I am the more inclined to reserve myself upon this subject, as I perceive attached to the requisition the names of sundry tories, or tory chartists, whose best efforts were at the last election used to secure the representation of Cheltenham to the tory party, and with whose opinions, including your own, I have not much sympathy!" On this reply the *Cheltenham Free Press* remarks:—

"We are not surprised at the tenor of Mr Berkeley's reply; it is quite in unison with his past votes and general conduct. Should Mr Berkeley ever again solicit the suffrages of the 103 requisitionists, we would recommend them to reply to him in his own words—I cannot support the party to which you are allied, 'with whose opinions, including your own, I have not much sympathy.' We trust that the friends of complete suffrage and a total and immediate repeal of the corn laws, will now see the necessity of organising themselves, and endeavouring to obtain for Cheltenham, not a tory representative in disguise, but one, who by past conduct and actual pledge will be likely to support their avowed principles. From a communication which we have received from the forwarder of the memorial, we find that the signature of no elector of known tory sentiments was solicited."

DUNDEE.—A correspondent writes as follows:—"The Complete Suffrage association in this town have forwarded a requisition to the member for the borough, to support Mr Crawford's motion, 'for leave to bring in a bill to secure a full representation of the people, and to shorten the duration of parliaments,' signed by 365 of the parliamentary electors. And had the canvass been conducted with more regularity and system, I am fully persuaded the numbers might have been doubled—i. e., that a full majority of the whole parliamentary electors might have been got to declare for the suffrage. From this proof of the progress which the question of suffrage is making, I am persuaded that Dundee at least will be able to send a thorough suffrage man to parliament next election; unless, indeed, some question of local interest should start up, and divide the constituency on it, as we have sometimes witnessed."

HAWICK.—The Hawick Complete Suffrage association, have resolved, at a meeting held on Tuesday evening last, to issue cards of membership, and to enter upon measures to increase their numbers, by a judicious canvass of all friendly to their objects, it being every day more apparent that the present House of Commons, as a whole, are entirely reckless of the great interests of this empire, and its industrious inhabitants.—*Edinburgh Chronicle*.

NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—The select committee appointed to superintend the building of the new houses of parliament have come to a resolution that, considering the great inconvenience of the present house of Lords, and that such inconvenience will be greatly aggravated by the progress of the new buildings before the commencement of the session of 1844, no delay should take place in the building and preparing the new house of Lords beyond what is absolutely required for the safety of the work; that the architect be directed so to conduct his operations as to secure the occupation of the new house of Lords, with temporary fittings, at the commencement of the session of 1844; that it does not appear to the committee that it is advisable that any alterations in the ventilation of the present house of Lords, which would lead to additional expense, should be adopted.

It was stated, in the Insolvent Debtors' court last week by Mr Barttelot, lately a hair-dresser in Regent-street, that his insolvency was attributed to the recent change of fashions in ladies' hair. The ringlets (he said) were the most profitable, and the plain bands introduced by her Majesty were the ruin of hair-dressers.

**THE OPIUM TRADE.**—A memorial on the opium trade, which was presented to Sir R. Peel in July last, by Lord Sandon, Mr W. Beckett, and other members of parliament, has recently been printed and widely circulated. It was extensively signed by many of the most eminent mercantile and manufacturing firms in Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh, Leeds, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Leith, Exeter, Bradford, Huddersfield, Halifax, Dewsbury, Preston, Oldham, &c., &c., without the slightest distinction of political sentiment. The memorial contains a representation, founded on official documents, of the evils inflicted in times past upon British commerce with China, by the illicit trade in opium, and of the still greater evils which may be anticipated if it be suffered to continue: the memorialists earnestly deprecate the legalising of the trade, as calculated "inevitably to undermine the commerce of Great Britain with China;" they show that the only effectual means of suppressing it consists in the prohibition of the growth of opium in India; they touch upon the moral and physical evils which flow from its use, whether practised by our own subjects in Assam or in the wide regions of China; and, in conclusion, they appeal to evidence given before parliament, to prove that the traffic is, "in its very nature, a gambling trade," gainful, it may be, to a small number of those who carry it on, but plunging the majority into misery; while "to Britons engaged in honourable commerce with China, to the growers and importers of wool and cotton, to the manufacturers of this country, and the thousands of operatives in their employ, the opium trade is grievously prejudicial." From our parliamentary report it will be seen that Lord Ashley intends calling attention to the subject in the house of Commons on the 28th instant.

**GREAT COMET.**—The following is an extract from a letter by Sir J. Herschel to the *Times*, relative to a newly-discovered comet of enormous magnitude:—

"I wish to direct the attention of your astronomical readers to the fact, which I think hardly admits of a doubt, of a comet of enormous magnitude being in the course of its progress through our system, and at present not far from its perihelion. Its tail, for such I cannot doubt it to be, was conspicuously visible both last night and the night before, as a vivid luminous streak, commencing close beneath the stars kappa and lambda Leporis, and thence stretching obliquely westwards and downwards, between gamma and delta, Edriani, till lost in the vapours of the horizon. The direction of it, prolonged on a celestial globe, passes precisely through the place of the Sun in the ecliptic at the present time, a circumstance which appears conclusive as to its cometic nature. As the portion of the tail actually visible on Friday evening was fully 30 degrees in length, and the head must have been beneath the horizon, which would add at least 25 degrees to the length, it is evident that, if really a comet, it is one of first-rate magnitude; and if it be not one, it is some phenomenon beyond the earth's atmosphere, of a nature even yet more remarkable."

A letter from Paris, under date of Friday, says—

"A most extraordinary change has taken place here in the weather. We have been, for the last two days, favoured with the warmth of July; but the most extraordinary thing is the sudden, and it appears unexpected, appearance of a comet yesterday evening, the largest, says the *Univers*, ever known. I did not see it myself, nor have I met any person who can say he has seen it; but a singular appearance in the heavens was noticed by hundreds. According to the *Univers*, the comet was discovered at seven o'clock, with a tail extending over a space of sixty degrees, viz., one fourth of the heavens. It proceeded from the constellation of Orion, which it crossed at an angle of forty degrees. If the moon had not risen so early, or the daylight had been less, probably a brilliant sight would have been witnessed by all Paris. Several gentlemen, astonished at the statement in the *Univers*, as they had no suspicion of the appearance of a comet, went to M. Arago this morning, at the observatory. He was in bed; but he had charged a member of his family to inform all who came to make inquiries that the account in the *Univers* was substantially correct, and that he intended, with his colleagues, to watch its appearance closely this evening, and publish an account of his observations. The nucleus of the comet was not visible, on account, it is supposed, of its immense distance."

The phenomenon has been observed on board the royal steamer Tay, just arrived at Falmouth.

An extraordinary phenomenon had been observed from the steamer Tay to the W. and SSW. during the homeward passage on the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 14th, 15th, and 17th inst. In appearance it was like a bright sunbeam, resembling in shape a comet's tail, but more parallel, the altitude of the upper limb being about 32 degrees, and terminating downward about eight degrees above the horizon in an oblique direction; it was generally visible from half-past six o'clock until nine o'clock in the evening. This is, no doubt, the comet referred to above.

Colonel Sir William Lewis Herries, C.B., K.C.H., has been appointed chairman of the commissioners for auditing the public accounts, in the room of Francis S. Larpent, Esq., who retires, after having filled the office for many years; and Sir A. C. Grant is nominated a commissioner, *vice* Sir W. L. Herries. —*Standard*.

**LORD BROUHAM AND MR BRIGHT.**—The *Chronicle* of Saturday publishes a correspondence between Lord Brougham and Mr John Bright, beginning on the 15th of February, and ending on the 24th. Lord Brougham sets out by seeking Mr Bright's disclaimer of the "atrocious falsehood" in the *Anti-bread-tax Circular*, that he had impugned an anti-corn-law deputation to intrust him with a motion in the house of Lords; and ends angrily, remarking that Mr Bright has not disclaimed the very authorship of the paper, by declining all further communication. Mr Bright, in reply, extenuates the inaccuracy of the *Circular*, and justly complains of Lord Brougham's method of censuring particular parties, by seeming

to implicate the League. He refuses, however, to answer Lord Brougham's question as to the authorship of the article in the *Circular*.

**LEGISLATIVE BENEVOLENCE.**—In consequence of the universal satisfaction afforded by the Dog Carts bill, it is proposed to extend the same benevolent protection to some of the less powerful classes of the brute creation. An hon. member, we are informed, has it in contemplation to propose a measure for the suppression of a certain cruel and brutal exhibition, at which fleas are put into harness and compelled to draw carriages, and are treated with other wanton indignities. It is also rumoured that the dogs are about to form a trades union for the purpose of petitioning parliament against the further application of a law calculated to prove so fatal to their best interests as that which is already in force in the metropolis. As summer approaches, it is probable that many will go mad in consequence.—*Times*.

From a pamphlet published by Mr George Robins, we learn, that from 1815 to 1842, a period of 27 years, more than ten millions of pounds sterling, and near seven hundred thousand acres of land have changed hands through the instrumentality of that gentleman.

It is stated on good authority, that upwards of one million sterling per annum is expended on the turf. It appears that upwards of 1000 horses were in training during the last season; that 1050 races have been contested; and £150,000 distributed among the winners!

The *Atlas* repeats a former statement respecting the formation of a company to carry out an invention of an aerial steam vessel. A few nights ago, in the house of Commons, Mr Labouchere begged leave to bring in a bill to enable the Aerial company to purchase the patent right from Henson and Co. Not only an account of the apparatus, but illustrations of this Utopian machine in its progress through the air, are promised to be given shortly.

**SLAVERY IN AMERICA.**—We copy the following announcement, as disgusting as it is atrocious, from the *Vicksberg Sentinel and Expositor*, for the 31st of January last:—"For sale, a lot of about thirty negroes, consisting of men, women, boys, and girls, all raised together, and not bought up for speculation. They may be seen at the ferry landing on the Louisiana side, opposite Vicksburg. For further information apply at the Glidewell House."

It is estimated that in Scotland there are 3,653 insane persons, being an average of one to about seven hundred of the population.

There were no less than 591 ships in the river Wear, at Sunderland, a few days ago—a sufficient proof of the depressed condition of the shipping interest.

It is reported on 'Change that the house of N. M. Rothschild and Sons are in treaty for the purchase of £700,000 Sycee silver.

Last year 40,000 persons visited the Thames tunnel. It is to be opened as a public thoroughfare in the course of the present month. The charge to be one penny for each person.

**A SON OLDER THAN HIS FATHER.**—It is stated that a lady living near Berlin, in Prussia, who has only attained the age of 103, has just contracted a fourth marriage with a youth of 70. But the cream of the joke is, that among the children which the bride brought to her new husband was a boy of 73.—*John Bull*.

It is said that women have more power in their looks than men have in their laws, and more power in their tears than men have in their arguments.

**THE HUNTERFORD SUSPENSION BRIDGE.**—The weekly report of this splendid spec. was read yesterday in the presence of the proprietors, and the whole of the men employed upon the works, consisting of the three carpenters and the bricklayer's labourer. The report briefly stated that the water in the front of the works continued to go on swimmingly. It was also stated that geological researches were being carried on in the neighbourhood of the works, and that the soil seemed to be uncommonly rich, leading to the conclusion that the proprietors would eventually profit by its richness. A dividend of a penny was at once declared amid great cheers, and a call of ten shillings a share applied for. The meeting after this broke up immediately.—*Punch*.

**PUZZLING QUESTIONS.**—Is Hyde Park a relation of Mungo Park? Was Lord Bacon lineally descended from Ham? Is not Lord Ellenborough a borough that ought to be disfranchised? Is Ben D'Israeli a better orator than Ben Nevis? Is the speaker of the House of Commons descended from Enfield's speaker? Is Burton-on-Trent equal to Burton on Melancholy?—*Punch*.

### Postscript.

Wednesday, March 22nd, 1843.

In the house of Commons last night, after a few observations from Sir T. WILDE, explanatory of his speech misreported in the *Morning Chronicle*, referred to by Lord Denman in the house of Lords, Lord Palmerston brought forward his motion relative to the Ashburton treaty. The motion was for copies of correspondence between Lord Ashburton and Mr Webster, but virtually implied a condemnation of the treaty lately made with the United States. The speech of the noble viscount extends over nearly nine columns of the *Morning Chronicle*, but is so replete with mere clap-trap declamation, and so clearly a party motion, that we have little doubt we shall best

suit the taste of our readers by devoting but little space to the debate. Lord PALMERSTON commenced by decrying war, and referring to the general dissatisfaction respecting the treaty. He then passed on to the historical part of the subject from the commencement of the dispute to its termination, and accompanied it with a running commentary favourable to his own view of the case. He censured the sending of a special mission—the individual selected for that mission—the manner in which the negotiator first demurred, then yielded, to the bullying demands of the Americans, by which they "check-mated" him. He concluded with observations on the injurious settlement of the case of the Creole, which afforded fresh encouragement to slavery.

Sir ROBERT PEEL, in reply, said that Lord Palmerston had occupied upwards of three hours in attacking a treaty and its negotiator, though he had been ten years in office without being able to effect any settlement of the dispute. The noble lord shrank from the more manly course of impeaching the treaty or its authors by a specific resolution, and contented himself with moving for papers which he knew could not be produced. He then followed Lord Palmerston through his speech, refuting his assertions on every material point. The bulk of moderate men were in favour of the treaty, which was the best answer to the strictures of the noble lord. With respect to the map with the "strong red line," he contended that no evidence existed to connect it with Dr Franklin's dispatch; there being another map in the possession of the late king which marked the boundary according to the American interpretation. He concluded with a vindication of Lord Ashburton, and called upon the House to stamp its approbation of the government and its representative by negating the motion.

Mr MACAULAY followed in favour of the motion. He addressed himself to three points: first, that there had been a sacrifice of national dignity; secondly, that some questions, such as the right of visitation, had been left in a worse condition than before; and thirdly, that the treaty had not secured a cordiality of feeling between the two nations. Sir HOWARD DOUGLAS, in a speech of considerable clearness, justified the settlement of the boundary question, both in a military point of view and with reference to the question of navigation. On the motion of Sir C. Napier the debate was then adjourned.

The House of Lords was occupied with another grievance of Lord BROUHAM'S, who complained of a false statement that he had received a hostile message from Lord Lyndoch. The story was not only without foundation, but ridiculously false; and as the author had evidently been actuated by a malignant motive, he was determined to bring the printer of the slander to the bar of the house.

The Duke of WELLINGTON, in reply to Lord Beaumont, said that it was the intention of the government to bring in a bill to give effect to the act of the Canadian legislature, with respect to the introduction of American grain, through Canada, at a fixed duty of three shillings, and into this country as colonial produce.

On the request of Lord BROUHAM, Lord CAMBELL postponed his motion on the Scotch church from the 27th to the 31st inst.

**ATHLONE ELECTION COMMITTEE.**—The inquiry into this election closed yesterday, when the committee agreed to a report, of which the following are the material parts:—

"That Daniel Henry Farrell, Esq., was not duly elected a burgess to serve in the present parliament for the borough of Athlone at the last election.

"That Mr D. H. Farrell was by himself, and his agent, Henry French, guilty of treating at the last election of a burgess to serve in this present parliament for the borough of Athlone.

"That it further appears to the committee that the law on this subject in Ireland is different to that in England, settled by the 1st Victoria, c. 89, and they deem it advisable that the provisions of the act should be extended to Ireland."

**FRANCE.**—The *Moniteur* officially confirms, in the following terms, the taking possession of Otaheite by the French force, under the command of Admiral Dupetit Thouars:—

"The government has received despatches from Rear Admiral Dupetit Thouars, announcing that the Queen and the chiefs of Otaheite had asked to be admitted under the protection of the King of the French. The Rear Admiral acquiesced in their demand, and had taken effective measures for the purpose until the receipt of the ratification of the King, which is about to be forwarded to him."

The weather continues to be magnificent in Paris, with an increasing temperature. The thermometer marked between 60 and 65 in the shade throughout Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. The newspapers state that "the celestial phenomenon which has attracted general attention in Paris is decidedly a comet, the focus of which was discovered on Saturday night. Hitherto it does not seem to be luminous (which, it appears, is a novel feature). It showed itself on Sunday night an hour less than on Saturday. The meteor was likewise seen at Fecamp and Orleans between seven and eight o'clock in the evening of the 17th. The oldest seamen of Fecamp declared that they had never witnessed such a phenomenon."

**CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.**  
No foreign corn has been received; of English the supply is 2,840 quarters of wheat, and 4,970 of flour. The prices are nominally the same as on Monday; but scarcely any business is doing.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Looker On" declined.  
 "J. Benson" shall hear from us in private.  
 "Civis." If the petition is not a long one, we will insert it.  
 "J. M." Next week if we can, but the insertion of so long a letter must depend greatly upon the extent of our parliamentary reports.  
 "G. Hilson." He may obtain what he wants of Mr H. Millichamp, 14, Church street, Lisson grove, London.  
 "Observer," next week.  
 "J. F. Bontems," next week.  
 "X. Y. Z." shall be attended to.  
 "J. Barnes," and "Libertas," received.  
 The article on the Bible society and its bookbinders next week.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.

For 7 lines .... 5s. 0d. | For 10 lines .... 6s. 0d.  
 For every additional line ..... 4d.  
 For a half column £1 5s. | For a column .. £2 0s.  
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Orders for the *Nonconformist* are received at the office, and by all booksellers and newsvendors. The terms of subscription, if paid in advance, are £1 6s. per annum. All communications for the Editor should be addressed to the office, No. 4, Crane court, Fleet street.

## The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1843.

## SUMMARY.

COME, gentle reader, sit you down, and let's have a quiet, familiar chit-chat about facts. Don't be alarmed, now, and bounce away in a huff, the moment we have mentioned the subject of it. If your temperament is very mercurial, and you feel your anger begin to run up towards boiling point, put down the paper and count one hundred—or peep in the glass, and observe how queer one looks when the inner man rushes up into the countenance in red hot haste, and peers out of the eyes—

"— to be resolved,

If Brutus so unkindly knocked, or no—"

or stir the fire, put on fresh coals, and blow the dust off the mantel-piece—after which, read on again. These are innocent artifices—counter-tokens which serve to break the spell of passion—guns, the firing of which disperses the water-spout of anger. Try any one of them—try the second, especially—should you be sensible of any choleric upheavings. It is an infallible specific. What says Burns?

"O wad some pow'r the giftie gie us,  
 To see oars as others see us!  
 It wad frae mony a blunder free us,  
 And foolish notion."

That "giftie," gentle reader, is yours. Look into your own eyes—or since—

"the eye sees not itself,

But by reflection, from some other thing—" look into the glass—and you will be as one outside of himself looking at himself. Men fear themselves more than they do anybody else—behave far better in presence of themselves than others! Make, then, your image mount guard for you a few moments—and whilst it paces up and down, within sight, to keep off the goblins of resentment, use your opportunity and read—and when you have done reading—think!

This motion of Mr Ward's, which came on in the house of Commons on Tuesday night, and that other twin motion of Mr Ewart's, which was postponed until after Easter, must be spoken to—they fall in the way of business. Mr Ward and Mr Ewart, we suppose, ever since the days of that convocation at Lichfield house, are men whose position is pretty well understood. They are out-riders in livery of the whig carriage—or, still more accurately, the sweeps of the whig locomotive—always a little in advance, to push out of the way obstructions which may lie across the line of whig policy. Bearing this in mind, it may be well to note a small series of facts. We shall do nothing more. We shall not make reflections, nor draw inferences. All we wish to do is to jot down a little bit of history "for all our goods." It will be recollected, then, that just on the eve of the opening of parliament we gave our readers, as gently as possible, full warning that the question of total repeal was not to be brought forward in parliament until after the whigs, borrowing, for the time being, the popularity of the League, had, by meaningless motions, exhibited themselves in the division lists of the house of Commons as a yet powerful party. From this point we start. The whigs threatened an amendment to the address, but no amendment was proposed; and Lord John Russell went out of his way to kick the Anti-corn-law League. Shortly after the opening of parliament, Mr Villiers gave notice that at an early period of the session he should call the attention of the House to the question of the corn laws, with a view to their total and immediate repeal. Mr Wallace, unconnected with party, gave notice of his intention to move the House into committee on the subject of the distress of the country; and Lord Howick, representing the whig aristocracy, out-

jockeyed the member for Greenock, and so led the debate. The division showed well for the whig party, being swelled by all the free-traders. Some time was suffered to intervene, ere the subject was again formally mooted in the house of Commons. Nothing definite whatever appeared of Mr Villiers's intended motion, but Mr Ward and Mr Ewart select the same week for forcing discussion upon certain aspects of the one great question. Meanwhile, however, an elaborate leader in the *Morning Chronicle* sets forth the mischief of showing division in the ranks of the liberal party; urges all classes to surrender something; to drop repeal, the discussion of which would bring no advantage; and to unite simply upon the ground of opposition to the existing law. A few days after the appearance of this article, in obedience, it seems, to advice publicly tendered to the League by Lord Kinnaird, George Wilson, Esq., chairman of that body, requested Mr Villiers to postpone his intended motion for repeal until after Easter. Mr Ward's motion came off last week, and another well-looking whig division ensued. Mr Ewart very judiciously postponed his motion, which would also admit of a whig demonstration, until after Easter—whether to shove still further forward toward the termination of the session Mr Villiers's motion for total repeal, will hereafter be seen. Well, the Premier gets his money before Easter, and will get his educational bill through the house of Commons. He will then have got all he wants. His budget will make no change in the present mode of taxation, and consequently will require no time for discussion. He will then put forth as an argument against all change, the late period of the session, will give his responses in terms just equivocal enough to excite fallacious hopes without driving from him faltering friends; and so it may happen that, partly by the dexterity of whig tactics, and partly by the haste of gentlemen having nothing to do to get away from town, Mr Villiers's motion for total repeal may accidentally drop through. We do not think it will; but, as our copy-books used to say, "Procrastination is the thief of time."

On Thursday evening, the time appointed for bringing on Mr Sharman Crawford's motion for leave to introduce his complete suffrage bill, the House, as we had anticipated, was counted out. The matter was effected by a trick; and so great was the earnestness of the whig party to accomplish the object, that they even employed force to detain in the library of the House of Commons one honourable member, who intended being present. The miserable trick of course succeeded—succeeded, however, only for a night. Mr Crawford's manly expostulation on the re-assembling of parliament, convinced the Premier of the unseemliness of the previous night's exhibition; and, to get rid of Mr S. Crawford's threatened motion of amendment upon the question of supply, promised to Mr Crawford, whose letter to Mr Sturge we commend to the attentive perusal of our readers, to secure him a House on any notice evening which he might prefer. We have given in another column the names of the parties reported to have been present when the House was counted out. It is not quite accurate; Lord John Russell, whose name appears in it, not having been in the house, and Mr Gill, whose name does not appear, having since the publication of the list written to the Editor of the *Morning Chronicle* to avow himself one of the 35. In justice to Mr Cobden we must state that he, and we believe two or three others of the more earnest free traders, came down early to make up a House, and that his absence was owing to nothing but a full persuasion that the House was safe for the evening. We are the more anxious to do Mr Cobden this justice, inasmuch as we have spoken our minds freely upon what we believe to be his mistaken policy; and, as we are sure the list will be appealed to at some future day, and no fair opportunity is likely to occur for Mr Cobden to explain the cause of his absence, we are anxious to prevent a mistake from getting abroad upon this head, which might inflict serious injustice. The motion is now fixed for the 30th instant.

Besides the above subjects, parliament has been occupied with the question of its own privileges—with Sir James Graham's Registration of Voters bill—with granting supplies, and with the Dog Carts bill; from which last specimen of proposed legislation, it would appear that our senators are more alive to the miseries of hounds than of men. We do not wonder at this. Many of them associate almost exclusively with their dogs—tend them, talk to them, go abroad with them, physic them, and exercise them with far more tenderness than is commonly displayed towards starving men. "I wish I were a gentleman's dog," said a poor littleurchin the other day, with real simplicity and earnestness to a friend of ours, "for then I should be sure to get enough to eat." Work men as hard as you like, break down their strength and grind their bones, but beware of overworking dogs! The poor wretch who, out of canine exertions saves a tax upon horses, and even with the aid of this economy can scarcely get bread, is to be forbidden thus to escape the toils of the tax-gatherer, and hence, under

colour of kindness to animals, we have a Dog Carts bill.

Of the Tavistock election we have spoken elsewhere. It was a glorious struggle, conducted, too, with the utmost courtesy of spirit. To Mr Trellawny we must give the praise of having shown himself a most gentlemanly antagonist. The elections for Cambridge and Ripon, which occurred almost without time for warning to the complete suffrage party, have terminated in the return of tories. The former place, it is said, was swamped with bribery—the latter requires no resort to any such unseemly practice—the electors being all of them tenants of one lady, who makes it a point "to do as she will with her own." By-the-bye, whilst the daily papers have given ample reports of these two last elections, they scarcely made mention of the election at Tavistock. They will not be able much longer to Burke all notice of the complete suffrage movement. The evidence before the Nottingham election committee clearly proves bribery and treating to have been extensively practised during the last election; but whether Mr Walter will be unseated, will depend of course upon the temper of a tory committee.

## THE RETURN OF SPRING.

WHETHER it be the return of genial weather, or the cheery significance of recent events, or welcomed relief from atrabilious oppression, we shall not take upon us to determine—but, assuredly, hope, in reference to the suffrage movement, is again in the ascendant in our minds. Not that we ever seriously doubted. In the darkest, bleakest, stormiest days of winter, when our eyes were all but blinded by driving snow, and when we durst scarcely keep them sufficiently open to see what was going on in the world without—even then, although keen winds made us shiver to our centre, and every word we spoke went forth tremulously, half-fearful of being bitten asunder by chattering teeth, we knew well enough that the days would gradually lengthen, that the sun would get higher, that the wind would change, and that chaps would disappear from the lips, leaving us at full liberty to laugh without screwing them up into unnatural pockers, lest tears should start into our eyes. We knew all this, as well as the kind friends who, looking forth from bright, warm chambers, and not being outside, could tell us. Faith in the return of spring is easily put forth by people who sit in-doors, and melt into hope, and kindness, and contentment, by a blazing hearth—and in such circumstances faith is the parent of joy. But it brings but little immediate relief to men whom nipping blasts have shrivelled up into half their former selves; and he who is compelled to blow his finger ends to put into himself, through these extremities, anything like feeling, gathers but cold comfort from the assurance that "spring is coming."

Well! spring is come. Complete suffragism begins again to show itself above the surface—the sap again ascends from the roots—the season of growth has, in the natural course of things, once more come round, and vernal breezes, and alternate showers and sunshine will bring it forward towards the maturity of its appointed autumn. "Tis a long night," they say, "which has no morning." There were some folks who predicted for complete suffrage, and that no long time since, utter and unchangeable darkness; and we have seen these men obliged, since then, to beg both bread and character, praise and pence. And now, the winter is gone with its in-door castle building and its waking dreams, and all who espouse this great cause may venture out, and commence work in sober earnest. To adopt the strain of gardening almanacs and directories, we may say to the supporters of this movement, "Eradicate all weeds—shelter associations which are in early bloom—head down young trees that are inclined to straggle—and sow your seed with unsparing hand."

"Ye fost'ring breezes blow!  
 Ye soft'ning dews, ye tender show'rs, descend!  
 And temper all, thou world-reviving sun,  
 Into the perfect year!"

Descending from our Pegasus to the level ground of plain, unadorned prose, and solid matter of fact. We think our readers cannot have failed to note, of late, some indications of fresh activity, of renovated energy among the friends of complete suffrage. Our own columns have furnished some cheering records of progress. The several memorials to members of parliament, signed only by electors, and, in several instances, signed most numerously, requesting their attendance in the House of Commons for the purpose of supporting the motion of Mr Crawford, for leave to bring in a bill embodying our principles, utterly as they seem to have failed in as far as the House is concerned, indicate, nevertheless, the wide-spread latent feeling in favour of the cause. The provincial journals, too, we observe, scared, many of them, from all allusion to the subject by the division at Birmingham, and apparently fearful, in presence of the all-powerful League, of keeping the subject before the public eye, are returning, one by one, to the discussion of it. The debate of the Birmingham Town Council, and the show of votes in favour of "organic reform"—the different tone of the correspondence

we ourselves receive from all parts—the note of preparation we hear from various associations—the enthusiastic reception met with by those gentlemen who lecture upon the doctrines of complete suffrage—and, “though last, not least,” the tenor and the issue of the Tavistock election, serve to breathe into us fresh life, and bid us awake to fresh and yet more energetic exertions. The movement, we rejoice to see, is assuming the right character and direction. Every step which it takes is now upon firm and unyielding ground, and conducts by the nearest way to the object in view. Its business is with electors and elections, and it girds itself up for its proper work. Its course is not a noisy but it is a sure one—more characterised by the useful than the grand.

And certainly the Tavistock election, which came off last week, opens up to the people a prospect of hope, such as we had almost feared they would not soon have looked upon again. Tavistock is an agricultural borough, containing about 250 electors, subject to the influence of the three aristocratic families—Bedford, Buller, and Trelawny. The whig candidate, J. S. Trelawny, Esq., is a young man of high spirit, of cultivated mind, urbane in manners, and amiable in disposition. Upon a little narrow constituency like this, was concentrated the influence of aristocratic power, rank, wealth, and education. Mr Trelawny, their cherished candidate, was first in the field. Henry Vincent, the representative of complete suffrage principles, went thither with no purpose of contesting the borough for himself, but rather to enforce attention to those political doctrines which are now identified with the cause of popular liberty. It appears that the registration of voters had been neglected; and that some friends to complete suffrage had promised their votes to Trelawny, previously to the appearance of another candidate. And yet, even here, what is the result? The agricultural population flock in from the adjoining villages and give to Mr Vincent as enthusiastic a reception as ever he would have met with from the working men of any manufacturing town in the kingdom. Out of 183 electors who polled, 71 of them voted for the stranger. The contest lay not between liberalism and conservatism—for Mr Trelawny himself advocated household suffrage, vote by ballot, triennial parliaments, and no property qualification for members. Yet, had not his claims been sustained by several tory votes and gently urged by aristocratic influence, not the less powerful because kept on this side of intimidation, even he, here, in the midst of his own neighbours, would have been unable to face the power of complete suffrage principles, and had the candour and manliness to acknowledge that but for his having been the first in the field, Mr Vincent might have been returned unopposed.

We see in the contest new ground for hope. We are glad to perceive that the council of the Complete Suffrage Union take the same view. There can be no reason to despair of the ultimate effect of these principles upon any borough constituency—when, without previous preparation for a contest, Tavistock itself was nearly carried by assault. The truths embodied in this movement for reform appeal not so much to men's views of political expediency, as to men's consciences, their sense of justice, and their love for human kind. Wielded by sincere advocates they become all but irresistible. There is about them a breadth, and generosity, and—much as we dislike the word—a finality, which command them to the heart. Men are conscious that in fighting the battle of complete suffrage, they are fighting the aristocracy once for all. It is not a war of details, but a struggle for supremacy, and though often spoken of in contradistinction to practical reforms, it is more practical, than any reform of the present day. True, we have the same—we may have a greater power with which to contend, but then we fight with keener, weightier, better-tempered weapons. The principle brought to bear down upon mind is in this case more easily seen, and vastly more important, than in most others. It is a question not of class, but of kind. It belongs not to one section of the community as against another, but to human nature, and hence its wonderful, its magic power—

“One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.”

And now to the friends of this noble movement we say, “Up, and be doing.” Your time for activity is come. Society calls for you. The disappointment of the public in respect to commercial reform, the apathy of government, the increasing distress of the people, and the new attack made by this educational bill on both civil and religious liberty, tell forcibly upon the public mind, and constitute a mighty argument for enforcing the necessity of organic reform. Up—up—and be doing. Let Tavistock convince you that matters are not hopeless. Let electoral clubs be formed in every borough in accordance with the recommendation of the council of the Union, and let every legitimate influence be brought to bear, from this time forth, upon the constituencies of the empire. None can tell when next a general election may occur, and at the next general election the country must be

saved by complete suffrage, or it will be lost beyond redemption.

#### GOVERNMENT EDUCATION—THE NOOSE OVER THE NECK.

THE object aimed at by the aristocracy in their recent resolution to superintend the education of the labouring class is, as we have seen, to govern them. They are beginning to be restive under oppression; and, as it is not in the mind of their rulers to relieve them, it becomes increasingly necessary to break them in betimes. The scheme devised for compassing this end, we must admit to be a most efficient one. Noiselessly, deliberately, certainly, and with the approval of the three political parties, aristocracy is about to throw the noose over the neck of a betrayed and deserted people. The mandate of our modern Pharaoh is on the eve of going forth—and, after the date of its issue, every masculine mind born in this kingdom is to be destroyed.

The plan of education proposed by ministers, and hailed as an inestimable boon by parliament and by the press, is the boldest inroad upon our liberties attempted since the revolution of 1688. It not merely tends to despotism; it is despotism. When, some time last session, Mr Hume expressed a wish that the *compulsory attendance at state schools* of the children of the working classes were enforced by law, we laughed at that gentleman's ideas of government and of freedom. It was, as it now turns out, no laughing matter. “The strike” came, and the aristocracy, frightened by the first view given them of a new element of power with which armies and artillery were incompetent to deal, took the hint, and set themselves to work out the happy suggestion of the member for Montrose. The fruit of their ingenuity and labour is “a bill for regulating the employment of children and young persons in factories, and for the better education of children in factory districts.”

The superscription of this measure might justly be, “Tyranny unto tyranny.” It is a real scorpion—completely formed, although, as yet, only in the egg. There are claws to it—venom—a sting, aye! a sting. It is dangerous enough, and in principle bad enough, for government to meddle in any way with the formation of mind, habits, character, even if it do nothing more than provide instruction for those willing to receive it. But to force it upon our industrious poor by ruinous penalties is a despotism which we had fancied would never dare to show its face in these realms. A parliament chosen under the Reform bill carries us back to the policy of Charles the first. A penalty of from one to ten shillings inflicted upon the parents of every factory child “for every day less than the full number of days during which such child ought to have attended school in any week,” and absents himself without leave of an inspector or a medical certificate—here is the barbed and poisoned weapon with which British liberty is to be thrust through. The poor children, doomed to pay out of the scanty wages which legalised monopoly leaves to them the possibility of earning, no less a sum than three-pence a week to the schoolmaster appointed to cram them with maxims of slavish morality, extracted from priestly superstition—forced to observe the saint-day's of a church, and to submit to the educational management of a clergy, saturated with the frivolous traditions of popery—released from the toil of earning wages only to undergo the toil prescribed by men who seem to have got up this measure as a plausible pretence for sharing those earnings with them—the poor children, we say, or rather the proposed bill says it, are never, under any pretence, to be absent from school, without subjecting to a fine, ruinous in amount to many of the working class, their parents or guardians. The lone widow to whom three-pence a week would be a large sum—the father of a numerous family, who, with the wages earned by his young ones added to his own, can purchase nothing more than bread and potatoes—the toiling, pining, wasting artisan, of whom it may be said,

“Meagre were his looks;

Sharp misery had worn him to the bone”—

are bidden to pay to the agents of an aristocracy three-pence a week for breaking-in their children to passive obedience; or, in case of refusal, are subjected to a heavy fine. Ah! Is it come to this? Are English manufacturers to be converted by a landed oligarchy into the collectors of school-fees from their workmen, for state-appointed pedagogues? Is this the retribution which overtakes them, for refusing to agitate for any but selfish and narrow objects? That the House of Commons, whom they would not reform, turns them into tax-gatherers, and puts them into a position of direct and odious hostility to their own “hands?” Is it come to this? Are our people to be driven to school by force of law, and hunted by pains and penalties into aristocratic and ecclesiastical toils? Yes! it is come to this—and parliament smiles approval—and the public press shouts, “Well done!”

The machinery by means of which this insidious design upon popular independence is to be practically wrought out, is thoroughly in unison with the

design itself. Supreme in power, in this matter, holding in their hands the strings of mental destiny for the working classes, is the Committee of her Majesty's privy council on education. Dependent upon this central authority, and intermediate between it and local trustees, we are to have inspectors of schools appointed by government, sanctioned by the archbishop of the province, or the bishop of the diocese, and empowered to visit any school in which a child receiving employment in a factory is educated, “to examine into the discipline and management thereof,” and to report to the committee of council. A report of one of these inspectors proving unfavourable, so soon as another school, within two miles of the factory, is declared by him to be more eligible, attendance at the defective institutions (the archbishop's inspector being judge) is made invalid—in other words, subjects the parents of the factory children, so attending, to the daily fine already specified. Schools conducted upon the principles of “the British and Foreign School society” are to remain, it is true, ostensibly unmolested. A certificate of school attendance at these places is to be regarded as valid, “provided such school be efficiently conducted.” Here, then, we have the government of the day, and the archbishop of the province, jointly sitting in judgment upon the “efficiency” of every school at which a factory child is receiving instruction, and armed with arbitrary and irresponsible power to determine upon its virtual suppression. There needs not the spirit of prophecy to foresee the result. If any one thing more than another would make us certain of the issue, it is the canting, slavering strain of the *Morning Chronicle* on this head. Whenever that organ of whiggism is more than usually earnest in its advice to dissenters, one may be certain that mischief is intended. One is irresistibly reminded of the traitor's kiss. Faugh! The shuffling, snuffling, cream-faced renegade, all smiles and selfishness, piety and political profligacy, drivel which seems to mean nothing, but which is very venom. Faugh! If dissenters can be soaped by this mixture of oil and alkali, they deserve all that assuredly they are about to catch!

The inspectors having determined upon the inefficiency of existing schools in any factory district, a school rate may be enforced upon the inhabitants, state schools established, and trustees chosen for their management. The clergyman of the parish—to be perpetual chairman of the local committee, and to have two votes—the two churchwardens, and four gentlemen appointed to office by magistrates at petty sessions, whose ecclesiastical and political bias we are not, at this day, left to guess, are to superintend more immediately the business of education in each place, or in the words of the act to determine “the appointment, suspension, or dismissal of the master or his assistants, their remuneration, and every question relative to the discipline and management of the school, and the dismissal of any child therefrom for misconduct. Provided always, that the appointment of a master and his paid assistants shall in all cases be subject to the approval of the bishop of the diocese in which the school is situated, as respects the competency of such master and his assistants to give the religious instruction required by the provisions of this act.” The religious instruction here spoken of is defined to be, “the catechism and such other portions of the liturgy of the church of England as the clerical trustee may appoint;” and authority is given to this same priest to order the master to teach this branch of knowledge on the Sunday—as dexterous a thrust at dissenting Sunday schools, as is that alluded to above against those of “the British and Foreign School society.”

Such, in brief, is Sir James Graham's short way with “chartists and dissenters.” Such is the insidious but daring scheme for *burking* independence—the independence of the working classes—in church and state! The measure, we have not the smallest doubt, will be carried unimpeded. The dissenters, who have stood aloof from popular representation, will now have aristocratic government to their heart's content. They may cry out—may cry aloud—and they are bound to do so. But they will not succeed in defeating the bill. Within one generation, unless, indeed, government is made to rest upon the broadest principles of democracy—civil and religious liberty will, under the operations of this act, be extinct. Great Britain will be ridden over, from end to end, by nobles, squires, and priests; and darkness, worse than Egyptian, will supervene.

A very curious and valuable umbrella of the value of 500 guineas, a present from the Turkish ambassador at this court to his sovereign, was submitted to Prince Albert at Buckingham palace on Monday, by Mr F. A. Taunton. It is covered with crimson silk, and the whole of the framework is of standard gold, the stick being divided into compartments, enclosing a watch, a sun dial, a botanical microscope, a telescope, and several instruments and articles, elegantly wrought in gold. His Royal Highness was pleased to express his highest approbation.

Some anonymous donor has presented to the Bishop of London five thousand pounds, to be expended in building a church in London.

## General News.

## FOREIGN.

## FRANCE.

The Minister of Marine, at the sitting of the Chamber on Monday, demanded a grant of 130,000f. for the sufferers at Pondicherry, a dreadful hurricane having devastated that town in October, and spread desolation and ruin throughout the settlement. The dreadful disasters at Guadalupe have occupied the public mind, while the proceedings in the Chamber of Deputies are scarcely referred to; although involving the question of the vote by ballot, and a reform of the Chamber. The King and the royal family had subscribed 42,000f. in favour of the victims of the disasters at Guadalupe. The commission of the Chamber is said to have concluded on rejecting the ministerial project of equalising the duties on West Indian and native sugar.

A new incident occurred in the Chamber of Deputies on Thursday, which it was deemed possible might tend to restore the vote by ballot to favour. On a proposition of ministers (by a bill prepared and presented to the Chamber) to grant a sum of 2,000,000f. to the company which had constructed the railroad between Bordeaux and La Teste to assist them to complete the work, the Chamber voted "par assis et levée" (a show of hands) the eight paragraphs of the bill. When, however, the House came to a vote on the *ensemble* of the bill ("that this bill do pass"), and which is always done by ballot, there appeared—

For the bill .....	164
Against it .....	166

Majority against ministers and the bill 2

The vote is considered to amount to this, "We may grant you our tolerance, but you shall never possess our esteem."

The intelligence from Algiers published by the *Sémaphore de Marseilles* of the 14th inst., is dated the 10th. Three columns having simultaneously marched from Cherchell, Milianah, and Blidah, the latter, under the orders of the Governor-general, surrounded, on the 3rd, the villages of the Beni-Menads, who had joined El Berkani in his last incursion on the territory of the Beni-Menacers, and made prisoners of the whole population, who were marched off to a common place of rendezvous. There, General Bugeaud stated his grievances to the chiefs of the tribe, and after selecting thirty-six hostages from among them, liberated the remainder. General Baraguay d' Hilliers had returned to Philippeville from an expedition into the interior, during which he received the submission of seventeen tribes, without firing a shot. The Governor-general decreed on the 8th the establishment of a new village composed of sixty families at Baba Hassem, in the district of Douera.

## TURKEY.

A Constantinople letter of the 15th ult. says:—"On the 13th, a firman of the Sultan appeared, abolishing the feudal system in Bosnia, and placing the Christians of that province on the same line as Mussulmans. Up to this period, the village of Bosnia had belonged to Mussulman owners, who exercised over them all the rights of master over serfs."

Advices from Constantinople, of the 22nd Feb., announce the detection of a conspiracy in Belgrade, having for its object the assassination of Prince Alexander, the new ruler of Servia, and his ministers. The conspirators, who have been seized, assert that they have acted at the direct instigation of the Russian consul; and the Princess Lubitzka, the mother of Prince Michael, is also accused of being implicated. The government of Servia has, it is added, removed from Belgrade to Cracowitz.

The *Sémaphore de Marseilles* of the 13th instant, announces the arrival in that harbour, on the 11th, of the British steam-frigate Hecate, commanded by Lieutenant Ward. "This steamer," it says, "which left Malta on the 8th, only brought a few journals and an official despatch for the English government, which was immediately forwarded by express. We are assured that this despatch came from Constantinople. Many conjectures were made as to the nature of its contents; some stated that the affairs of Servia were again beginning to assume an alarming aspect, and others asserted that serious hostilities had broken out between Persia and Turkey."

## SPAIN.

The Madrid ministerial journals of the 8th boast of the success of their party, not only in Madrid and the sea ports of the south, but in Valladolid, Avila, Badajoz, Caceres, Cuidad Real, Alava, and the greater part of Leon. There was a rumour of Rodil and Zumalacarreguy quitting the ministry, and of the Regent's having consulted Senor Olozaga. Ministers were certain of a majority in the Cortes. The returns known gave them about forty votes more than their opponents.

The announcement in the *Patriota* that a new and very advantageous proposal had been presented to the ministry for securing the regular payment of the dividends of the three per cents. stock during several years, and the report that negotiations for the conclusion of a treaty of commerce with Great Britain had been resumed, imparted considerable activity to the Bourse transactions, which in the three per cents. alone, amounted to 45,000,000 reals. The Barcelona journals are entirely occupied with the elections. Their result in Barcelona had not yet been officially proclaimed.

## FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

COLONISATION IN NEW ZEALAND.—The rapidity with which this newly-settled colony is rising in the scale of civilisation is altogether unrivaled. The

body of first settlers in New Zealand did not reach the islands until the beginning of 1840. Before then, there had been no colonisation, properly speaking, but the European inhabitants consisted of a few missionaries, traders, whalers, and runaway sailors and convicts. At the date of the latest accounts, October last, the British population of the islands was estimated at between 11,000 and 12,000. These were distributed as follows:—Bay of Islands, 500; Hokianga, 100; Auckland, 1,900; Wellington and the Northern shore of Cook's strait, 6,000; New Plymouth, 800; Nelson, 2,100; other places in the middle island, chiefly whaling stations, 500. And to these we might now add 1,830 persons who quitted England last year for Cook's strait, but had not arrived at the date of the latest accounts. At this moment, probably, the entire British population of New Zealand exceeds 13,000 souls. The *Colonial Gazette* gives the following account of Wellington, the principal settlement:—

"The 'borough' of Wellington had elected its officers under the municipal law: two newspapers were regularly published there, the organs of the two parties into which this British society has naturally divided itself; and the electioneering on this occasion appears to have closely resembled what takes place under like circumstances in the old country. The addresses to 'the free and independent electors of the borough of Wellington,' together with the 'we' and 'our contemporaries' of the newspapers, are capital imitations of the *Times* and the *Chronicle*. The chief justice was holding a court of Assize; and reports of the cases, civil and criminal, appeared in the journals. It should be remembered that only three years had then elapsed since the expedition from England, which was sent out to choose the site of Wellington, entered the harbour, and that at that time not a single white person inhabited its shores. The third anniversary of the first arrival of white men had just been commemorated, and an authentic shipping list shows that precisely 500 vessels had entered the port during the three years. It was computed that the receipts of the custom-house, together with auctioneers' and public-house licenses, exceeded, many times over, the whole expense of local government at this settlement; and the colonists are not a little irritated at the abstraction, for the support of Auckland, of the greater part of the revenue derived from their pockets. Cultivation was advancing; numerous flocks and herds had been imported; and the shore-whaling establishments dependent on Wellington were rapidly increasing."

BANKRUPTCY IN THE UNITED STATES.—In the *New York Inquirer* of the 20th of February we find a list of bankrupts occupying six columns, printed in small type, and containing, at the lowest computation, 700 defaulters. This is for New York alone, and displays, without exception, the most frightful picture of insolvency ever exhibited. This accounts for the poverty of the American exchequer. A column and a half is filled with new bankrupts, and the other columns contain the names and trades of persons who are to apply for "discharge and certificate" in the month of May. Jonathan boasts that he goes ahead of all other people, and we readily admit that in one respect he has no competitor.—*Sun*.

CHINA.—The *Friend of China*, a paper published at Hong Kong, contains the curious announcement of a newspaper about to be published in the Chinese language. "We had hoped, ere this," says the editor, "to have issued a newspaper in Chinese, but the types, which were very handsomely loaned to us by his excellency the Plenipotentiary, have hitherto been and still are, we believe, employed at Macao in printing some works introductory to the study of the Chinese language." Nearly all the Chinese population, it is asserted, are able to read, and all classes evince an extraordinary avidity to obtain information, provided it be conveyed to them in their own language.

SICILY.—Accounts from Palermo of the 27th ult. mention that a serious disturbance had taken place a few nights before, at the representation of a new opera, entitled "Mary Tudor, Queen of England," the *libretto* and music of which had been composed by two young Sicilians, Messrs Gernia and Pacini. The first performance, it appears, had excited a truly frantic enthusiasm; the two authors were called for, and crowned on the stage, and when the play was over, the young men in the pit triumphantly conducted them by torchlight to the Villa di Conti, which is situate on a hill, at about a league from Palermo. The Duke de Maggio Principe, governor of the city, on hearing of this ovation, and of the intention of the people to repeat it at the second representation, repaired to the theatre that night to be at hand to repress it. The second act had scarcely commenced, when he discovered that certain passages, offering political allusions to the Neapolitan government, elicited the most deafening applause. The Governor immediately ordered the curtain to be dropped, and the hall to be cleared of the spectators. Those in the pit resisted the order, and uttered threats and insults against the Governor, who was at last obliged to have recourse to the military to clear the house. This, however, was not accomplished without bloodshed, and the next morning the Governor, having demanded a list of the persons arrested, designated those who should be tried by the criminal and correctional courts, and liberated the remainder, who had merely confined themselves to applaud and cry encore, but forbidding them ever to re-enter any theatre in the island of Sicily.

WEST INDIES.—From a letter published in the *Barbados Globe*, a copy of which was received by the captain of the Zarifa, it is gratifying to know that the islands of Dominica, St Lucia, and Martinique, along with Barbadoes, have happily escaped with very little injury.

TAHITI.—The *Memorial Bordelais* publishes a report from M. A. Maire, captain of the *Mélanie*, announcing that Admiral Dupetit Thouars, on his return from the Marquesas islands, touched at Otaheite, where he received from Queen Pomare a formal demand to place her possessions under the protection of France. A treaty was drawn up and signed by the Queen, and all the documents relative to this negotiation were forwarded to France by the *Mélanie*. The admiral had established French authorities in the island, with the consent of the Queen. The English residents in the South Sea

islands had loudly exclaimed against what they called French usurpation. The Chilian journals had, however, expressed their satisfaction at the conduct of Admiral Dupetit Thouars. Otaheite, the most considerable of the Society islands, is situate about 250 leagues to the south east of the Marquesas. This fine island, which Bougainville named the new Cythera, and whose fine climate Lord Byron celebrated, is one of the richest in good harbours in that part of the world, containing not less than six excellent stations.

In addition to the above the *Morning Chronicle* of Tuesday has the following:—

"It appears that the Queen of Otaheite has merely ceded to the French admiral the protectorate and external sovereignty of Otaheite, with the management of the affairs of the white settlers there. But we perceive that the future sovereign of Otaheite, though external, as Admiral Dupetit Thouars, his representative, considers the religion of a country as a portion of its external. For the French admiral naturally, as representing his most Christian Majesty, has ordered all the English and American protestant missionaries out of the island. Already, at the Sandwich islands and elsewhere, French naval officers have preached, with the sword, a crusade against Anglo-American missionaries. Now, we suppose, that by right of his external sovereignty, the French King will proceed with the extirpation of protestantism from the Pacific."

THE EARTHQUAKE AT GUADALOUPE.—A letter in the *Constitutionnel*, from an officer in the marines stationed at Guadalupe, states that 680 bodies had been withdrawn from the ruins up to the 12th ultimo. The same communication also says, that the corps to which the writer belongs had contributed 1,200 shirts and 1,500 pairs of trousers to the general stock of goods collected for the sufferers, and had placed themselves on half rations in order to give the other portion to those in want of food.

POSEN, MARCH 11.—The city of Posen has recommended its two deputies to the provincial assembly to make the following proposals:—1. For liberty of the press, with the responsibility of the authors. 2. Extension of the provincial representation. 3. Publicity of the proceedings in civil and criminal causes; likewise in the affairs of the towns and of the provincial assemblies. 4. Abolition of monopolies, especially the monopoly of salt.—*Hamburg papers*, March 17.

Intelligence from Canada, to the 22d of February, announces a surprising change in the health of Sir Charles Bagot. On the evening of the 11th, his life was despaired of. On the Sunday he was seized with a violent vomiting; which at once relieved him, and disclosed the fact, that his disease of the chest was not dropsy, but an abscess, which had burst. From that time the bulletins down to the 22d indicate a gradual improvement.

PRESS IN GERMANY.—The *Frankfort Journal* states that the re-action against the liberty of the press is making rapid progress amongst the Germanic confederation, and that the censorship is become more strict than ever. The *Rhenish Gazette* will cease to appear after the 1st of April next. The *Universal Gazette* of Leipsic is refused admission into Prussia, and the *Augsburg Gazette* has lost its importance in consequence of the proscription enforced by Bavaria and Prussia.

## DOMESTIC.

## METROPOLITAN.

ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.—The first meeting of the League at Drury lane theatre came off on Wednesday evening last, and was an effective demonstration. Pit, boxes, galleries, and platform were crowded, including a fair sprinkling of ladies. There was a strong muster of members of parliament, and a number of distinguished men from the country. The speakers for the evening were Mr Ewart, Mr Cobden, Mr John Bright, and the Chairman. Mr Ewart, as on former occasions, confined himself for the most part, to pointing out the squeezable materials of which the Premier was made. It only required a little more effort—a little more pressure from without, and Sir Robert Peel would give way. He referred to the contemplated admission of Canadian flour and of American corn through Canada, to be admitted "by a sort of knight's move," and the delusion by which the agriculturists were being caojiold. Mr Cobden severely handled Lord Brougham for his fierce invective in the house of Lords on Tuesday night, and would leave the assailant, as a just retribution, to his own reflections—"an example of intellect not guarded by moral rectitude." He urged the gratitude due from the League to dissenting ministers for their effective assistance, and defended the Rev. Mr Bayley of Sheffield.

"I say that there is not a word that has ever been uttered by any minister of religion who has attended our conferences or aided our proceedings, the responsibility of which, if fairly and honestly interpreted, I am not prepared to take upon myself. But there has been language used which has been most foully and most atrociously misrepresented by the noble and learned lord; who comes back from Cannes, pokes over the seventy pages of calumny in the *Quarterly Review*, and then launches forth into these atrocious calumnies on the Anti-corn-law League. I have been accused of not having repudiated the language employed by the Rev. Mr Bayley of Sheffield. I have been accused of being an accomplice, because I did not come forward in public and repudiate the charge made against him of inciting the people of this country to commit murder. Why, I should as soon think of doing so as of going before the Lord Mayor and making an affidavit that Mr Bayley was not guilty of cannibalism."

He severely handled the monied aristocracy of the metropolis.

"He had been taunted with the little support given by the bankers and merchants of London to this agitation. Why was this? Because they trusted leaders who had no title to guide them [cheers]. Who were the mouthpieces of the city gentlemen? He turned to a publication called the *Banker's Circular*, whence did that proceed? It denied the distress of the country arose from the corn laws, but to what did it attribute it? Why to the monopoly of quicksilver in the mines of Almaden [laughter]. Here was a mouthpiece of the merchants of London! Again, this wise publication discovered that the Scotch banking system originated with John Knox [laughter]. Why did he refer to these things? Because he regretted that the opinions of the city bankers and merchants should be so misrepresented. When the really intelligent merchants spoke, they were in fa-

your of freedom of commerce. That was the opinion of Mr Rothschild before the committee of bankers. But the bankers of London were not among them to-night; although they well knew what was going on in that place to-night, they would not come a few yards west of Temple bar to ascertain whether what was being done was right or wrong."

Mr Bright followed in an energetic address, concluding with an appeal for further funds. The Chairman announced that a meeting would be held in the same place on that day week.

A new insurance company has been established in the metropolis for the purpose of carrying out the temperance principle in the navigation of vessels. It is called the "Temperance and General Marine Insurance company." Our advertising columns of next week will contain the preliminary prospectus of the directors, which will be found well worthy of an attentive perusal.

At the half-yearly general court and one of the quarterly courts of proprietors of the bank of England, held on Thursday, a dividend of three and a half per cent was declared, deducting the 7d. in the pound on account of the income tax, for the half year ending the 5th of April—the dividend warrants to be delivered and paid on the 6th.

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.—Spring has not, as was anticipated, brought any prospects to ship-owners of a fair remuneration for the capital which they have invested in shipping. There are at present in the East and West India, London, and St Katherine docks, upwards of 200 vessels ready to be sent to sea, unemployed, and for which freights cannot be obtained.

SEVERE DISTRESS.—A correspondent of the *Bradford Observer* writes thus from the metropolis. First as to the capitalist:—

"There is a general shaking of confidence as to the future prospects of trade. Some of your readers will be perhaps surprised to hear that our city bankers (I know what I state to be correct) have more than five millions and a half of money lying in deposit at the bank of England, for which there is no demand; and a very considerable portion of this enormous unemployed capital has been withdrawn from trade, in consequence of the want of confidence to which I had just adverted, and is held until some more secure method of investment transpires. This fact is trumpet-tongued enough."

And then as to a portion of the middle class:—

"First, I refer to the immense deterioration which has taken place in the value of house property, and the frightful change for the worse in the domestic circumstances of the poor. During the past few days I have been making inquiries of persons owning, altogether, three hundred and seventy-nine cottages in different localities in the eastern district of the metropolis. The occupants of one hundred and forty-five of these tenements have left during eighteen months; and it has been ascertained that a great majority of these, even where there have been families, and in some cases very large families, have gone into rooms in the cheapest, lowest, and most unhealthy lanes, alleys, and, as they are called 'places.' It is useless to enlarge upon the misery, the demoralisation, the disease, which this state of matters presents to the mind. During these eighteen months the distresses and other processes which have been put in for rent have been hideously numerous, and so many of the remaining tenants are largely in arrears, that proprietors would willingly sacrifice, in many cases, one-half of the cost of the erection of the buildings, if they could find purchasers."

SHORT HOURS OF BUSINESS.—At a meeting of the Metropolitan Drapers' association, held at the Freemasons' tavern last week, Mr More in the chair, and at which many leading members of the trade were present, resolutions were passed, recommending an earlier suspension of business, and a more general abridgment of the hours of labour.

THE FLOATING PIERS.—The recently appointed special conservancy jury met on Saturday last at the Crown and Sceptre, Greenwich, to make their report to the Lord Mayor on the state of the river for this district. His lordship, in his state barge, towed by No 7 of the Watermen's Steam company, arrived at two o'clock, when the court having been opened in the usual manner, the jury produced their several presentations, which were read by Mr Sergeant Mere-wether. They were principally to the effect that the several floating piers at Deptford, Greenwich, Charlton, and Woolwich were encroachments on the fair stream of the river, and not being permanently constructed were dangerous to her Majesty's subjects as public landing and embarking places; and that, with regard to the floating pier at Garden stairs, Greenwich, it was not only so as respects the planks leading from the stairs to the barges, but that the barges themselves were nuisances, and obstructive to the free landing and embarking of the public generally. The Recorder, in thanking the jury for their duties, earnestly recommended the immediate removal of the obstructions complained of, to prevent legal force for the purpose. The court then broke up.

THE WOODEN PAVEMENT.—On Tuesday, in the court of Sewers at Guildhall, Alderman Gibbs in the chair, Sir Peter Laurie brought forward a motion to the effect that those who approved of wood paving should be alone compelled to pay for it. Mr King, after a few words, moved the previous question, which was carried by a majority of two; the numbers being 20 to 18.

THE THAMES TUNNEL.—Saturday, at a meeting of the directors, it was definitely arranged that the ceremony of opening this great national work should take place on Saturday, the 25th inst. The Duke of Wellington has promised to officiate on the occasion, and a very numerous attendance of the nobility and gentry is expected. At the conclusion of the ceremony on Saturday, the directors will dine with their friends at the London tavern, and it is expected that the noble duke, who has always taken great interest in the undertaking, will honour the company with his presence.

THE MONOMANIAC STEVENSON.—This poor insane man was examined before the Lord Mayor on Friday and Saturday. On Saturday evidence was given by Drs Bright and Sutherland, fully proving his insanity. As the examination proceeded the fact became still more obvious. An extract or two will suffice:—

Dr Sutherland.—I said to him that I was not aware I was in the presence of a person of so much dignity, and he said he ought to be upon the throne as one of the covenanters, who had a title to the authority, according to law.

The Lord Mayor.—Prisoner, is that your opinion?

The Prisoner.—Yes, yes; surely it is. A woman has no right to it. Show it to me in the word of God, and if it is not there where can the force of it be? All the people in my town believe me to be mad, but I only say, prove it by the word of God that things are right.

The Lord Mayor.—Do you say that you ought yourself to reign instead of the Queen?

The Prisoner (smiling).—Ay, surely; I can prove it; no one can deny it. I defy any one of you all to prove otherwise.

Again, in the examination of the policeman who apprehended the prisoner:—

The prisoner said he came to London to see Sir Robert Peel, to whom he had written, without receiving any answer, and that he must see Sir Robert personally, or he would have his revenge.

The Lord Mayor.—Is that true, Mr Stevenson?

The Prisoner.—I never intended such a thing as revenge. No, no; no personal revenge. If a man thinks of revenge, and speaks of it, he must be stark mad.

The Lord Mayor.—You mean, if you intended revenge you would say nothing about it?

The Prisoner.—Surely I would not. A man must be mad that would.

The Lord Mayor.—Yet you have said that the Queen ought to be destroyed if she does not give up the crown?

The Prisoner.—Yes, yes; surely she ought to be destroyed.

The Lord Mayor.—It is our opinion that a man holding and uttering such opinions ought not to be allowed to go at large.

It was accordingly arranged that Stevenson should be remanded to the Compter until Monday, when further directions would be received from the Secretary of State.

THE REV. DR BAILEY.—The circumstances under which this individual was convicted and sentenced to transportation for life at the January sessions of the Central Criminal court will be still fresh in the recollection of our readers. Contrary to usual custom, the presiding judge passed sentence on the prisoner *instante*, and the conclusion in the minds of the public would naturally be that its execution would proceed in due course. For some unexplained reason, however, this has not been the case, and the convict still remains in Newgate, enjoying all the privileges of an untried prisoner, his friends being allowed to visit him daily; while those of other convicts similarly situated have the same opportunity only one day in seven. Nearly the whole of the prisoners sentenced to transportation at the January sessions have been removed to the hulks, and the delay in Bailey's case is the subject of much curiosity even among the officers of the prison. It is generally stated that the governor (Mr Cope) is opposed to the indulgence shown towards the convict, but that the order emanates from a superior quarter.—*Times*.

SUPPOSED ATTEMPT TO POISON A FAMILY.—A few days since the son of Mr Dawson, of Rose cottage, Spring hill, Upper Clapton, found at the garden gate a brown paper parcel, containing, as he supposed, a half-circular cake, the surface being strewed with currants. The lad, in unbounded feelings of delight at his fortune, proceeded to divide it amongst his brothers and sisters, four in number; fortunately, however, he first partook of it himself, and was instantly seized with sickness and vomiting, and in consequence prevented a fatal catastrophe to the family. On examination the cake proved to be a substance composed of filthy deleterious ingredients, some of which are supposed to be poisonous, or, at least, so pernicious as to have endangered the lives of the children had they frequently partaken of it. The only clue at present to the perpetrators of the diabolical act is, that on the day when the filthy composition was found, a labouring man picked up at the door of another cottage on Spring hill a parcel strongly resembling the former, and was soon after accosted on the circumstance by a respectably dressed female, who claimed the parcel; and after giving him 2d. proceeded in the direction of Rose cottage. The dastardly atrocity of the act has created much excitement and indignation, and a reward for the discovery of the miscreants has been offered.

#### PROVINCIAL.

##### TAVISTOCK ELECTION.

The nomination of candidates for this whig pocket borough took place on Wednesday last. The candidates were J. S. Trelawney, Esq., and Henry Vincent. The former was supported by the Bedford, Buller, and other powerful interests; the latter relied only upon the effect which an earnest appeal in favour of democratic principles must ever produce. A conservative candidate was expected, but did not appear. The division amongst the liberal electors would have given such a candidate a better chance of success than may occur again; and, as many conservative electors voted for Trelawney "to keep out Vincent," it is thought that the whigs and tories understood each other. Had there been three candidates, Vincent must have been returned; as it was, it required immense exertion and influence to defeat him. The country will understand that Tavistock "belongs" to the Bedford family. Before the Reform bill that family nominated both members; it now merely nominates one, though it necessarily uses some influence in the returning of the other. When Mr Vincent arrived here he had no intention to contest the election; but, at the conclusion of a very large meeting on Monday week, he came forward at the earnest request of an influential body of the electors. His address came out the day before the nomination.

The nomination took place in the ball room of the Bedford Hotel, on Wednesday, 15th inst. The large room was densely crowded, and a great many ladies attended, who were provided with seats on the plat-

form and orchestra. The attendance included the *elite* of the neighbourhood. The act for improving the mode of elections, as well as that against bribery, having been read, the Port-reeve briefly addressed the people on the object for which they had met. He called upon any gentleman to address the meeting who had any candidate to propose.

J. GILL, Esq. (late sheriff of Cornwall), amidst much interruption, proposed J. S. Trelawney, Esq.

Mr R. HEMAN (amidst cries of "not a voter") seconded the nomination. He was repeatedly interrupted, when Mr VINCENT rose and said, "This conduct is disgraceful; I earnestly request the meeting to listen patiently to every gentleman—you have no right to refuse any man a hearing; it is contrary to every principle of justice (cheers)."

JOHN PEARCE, Esq., in an able speech, proposed Henry Vincent. The nomination was received with tremendous and repeated cheers.

Mr SERCOMBE seconded the nomination.

Mr TRELAWNEY addressed the meeting in explanation of his principles. He was for household suffrage and triennial parliaments, for a reform of the church, and for free trade. If he understood the principles of his hon. opponent, as far as they related to taxation, he went for a reduction in its most extended sense; but, in this the hon. gentleman went no further than did he (Mr T.); and he therefore hoped that, on that account, the constituency of Tavistock would not be more favourably disposed towards that gentleman than towards himself. He would willingly resign his seat when called upon by a majority of the electors to do so (cheers).

Mr VINCENT rose and said, it gave him almost inexpressible pleasure to acknowledge the kindly reception that had been given him by the electors of the borough of Tavistock. It also gave him considerable pleasure to be able to bear testimony to the urbanity and gentlemanly deportment towards him of his opponents (cheers). A greater proof of the advancement, morally and intellectually, of society, could not be given, than in the hearty unanimity and commingling of sentiment, in one common cause, and that cause the prosperity and happiness of the people. He (Mr V.) would not have intruded himself upon the notice of the electors of the borough of Tavistock, had he not felt that an opportunity presented itself of assisting in the great, the glorious cause of political freedom, and the delivering of the great mass of the people from the thralls of a corrupt and unjust legislature. He could not stand before that meeting upon an equality with his honourable opponent, as regarded his aristocratic origin, or as the possessor of wealth which would enable him to defy opposition. He could not boast of any connection with the aristocracy; he stood before them as one of the people—as a plain humble man who was ready to enter the corrupt and debased house of Commons, and take the aristocratic party—the inflexible enemies of the people, by the beard (loud cheers). Mr Vincent proceeded to unfold the principles of complete suffrage, and showed its superiority over household suffrage. He pointed out the necessity for its adoption. Concerning his speech the *Plymouth Journal* says, "Mr Vincent spoke for more than two hours, and concluded a very talented and energetic speech, delivered in an animated strain of declamation, calculated to keep alive the attention, and excite the feelings of his hearers; he was repeatedly cheered, and sat down amidst the most vociferous acclamation."

The Port-reeve then proceeded to take the show of hands, when there appeared, for Mr Trelawney, about 50; for Mr Vincent, the remainder of the meeting, accompanied with hearty cheers. The Port-reeve declared the show of hands to be in favour of Henry Vincent. A poll was demanded on behalf of J. S. Trelawney, Esq.

THURSDAY MORNING.—The poll commenced this morning at eight o'clock, and continued throughout the day as follows:—

Half-past eight o'clock.

Vincent 28 Trelawney 11

Nine o'clock.

Vincent 45 Trelawney 26

Half-past nine o'clock.

Vincent 48 Trelawney 34

Ten o'clock.

Vincent 51 Trelawney 40

Half-past ten.

Vincent 55 Trelawney 55

Eleven o'clock.

Vincent 57 Trelawney 70

Half-past eleven o'clock.

Vincent 62 Trelawney 83

Twelve o'clock.

Vincent 64 Trelawney 90

Close of the poll—four o'clock.

Vincent 71 Trelawney 113 Majority 42

An agent of the Duke of Bedford's sat near Trelawney all the day. Many who had promised to vote for Vincent were *obliged* either to vote against him or to remain neutral. The right sort of people were sent to bring up the farmers, many of whom were brought out of their fields. The Trelawney, Bedford, and Buller families have great influence throughout the neighbourhood; still they had the greatest difficulty to bring up their men. About ten in the forenoon, as a working man was coming up to the poll, his master (who was in the Trelawney interest) said to him, "Who are you going to vote for?" "For Vincent," was his reply. "Then," said he, "you are discharged at once from my employ." This was overheard by the bystanders, amongst whom was a supporter of Trelawney, who immediately issued a bill exposing the transaction. Mr Trelawney immediately issued a bill denying all participation in the transaction, and pledging himself to use his influence to prevent the threat being carried into effect. In this, as in every other part of the contest, Mr Trelawney acted in a highly honourable

and gentlemanly manner. The working man polled for Mr Vincent as soon as the threat was made. Two supporters of Mr Trelawney subscribed towards the expenses of Mr Vincent's committee; while two or three influential complete suffragists had pledged themselves to Trelawney before Mr Vincent's arrival, and could not withdraw. Surely this ought to make complete suffrage electors cautious. Mr Rundle (the late member), who is much respected, and deservedly so, is a banker; and though he took no public part in the election, voted early in the morning for Trelawney, and otherwise expressed himself favourable towards him. These influences, together with the tory votes, were the causes of Mr Vincent's defeat. As it is, the result is looked upon as a great victory. It has laid the foundation for certain success for a complete suffrage candidate on a future occasion. About thirty persons favourable to Mr Vincent had neglected to register. Let this contest, in this whig pocket borough, stimulate other constituencies. At the close of the election Mr Vincent addressed an immense concourse of persons from the window of Mr Pearce.

He bade them adieu amidst hearty cries of "You must come again." On the same night the electors met and formed an electoral club, to prepare for the next election. They propose to collect subscriptions, look after the registry, and otherwise prepare the town for future victory. Mr Vincent left, to attend a tea meeting at Nottingham, early the next morning. A public dinner is to be given to him, in a few weeks, to celebrate the election.

This short sketch must not be concluded without again stating, that throughout Mr Trelawney's conduct was admirable; and at the close of the poll he thus expressed himself:—"I am gratified at the conduct of my hon. opponent throughout this contest. So nearly do my opinions accord with Mr Vincent's, that he is first in the field, I should not have opposed him; on the contrary, I should have wished to see him in parliament. At the same time, gentlemen, I do not blame him for his opposition, because he is the representative of a great and growing party, and it was his duty to ascertain how many of the electors of Tavistock were prepared at once to give that party their support" [loud cheers].

Another correspondent informs us—

"An amount of good has been effected by the late contest for this borough, which years of ordinary agitation could scarcely have accomplished; and the advantages of bringing forward complete suffrage candidates at every practicable opportunity have certainly been placed in a very striking light. There is no more effectual mode of appealing to a man's sense of right, and of rousing his slumbering conscience, than by placing him in a position which compels him to take a part negatively or positively, in great public questions, if those questions are placed upon high grounds of principle. Our cause is so good in itself, that when fairly placed before the public in a calm and considerate spirit, it cannot fail of securing respect, and enforcing conviction, where prejudice or interest has not pre-occupied the ground. But when such a cause is pleaded with the eloquence, the masterly force of reasoning, combined with that playful, cutting humour, yet thoroughly generous and Christian tone of feeling, which are the striking characteristics of Henry Vincent, the effect produced is perfectly astonishing. Whigs, tories, radicals, ladies of high and low degree, the very children in the streets, all seemed pervaded with one universal sentiment of admiration for the man, and respect, if not sympathy, for the great cause he advocated. We never witnessed so remarkable a change as was effected by this truly good and noble-minded man in the minds of hundreds, previously disposed to condemn the division introduced into the borough by the three or four friends of complete suffrage, who wrote to Joseph Sturge; and who, though deserted by many of their usual supporters, persevered in their efforts to afford the electors an opportunity of bearing witness to the great principles justly held by them so dear. Richly have they been rewarded; and may their brethren in the cause elsewhere have similar opportunities and similar success. A vote of thanks to Joseph Sturge, for recommending Henry Vincent, was carried at a crowded meeting of electors and non-electors, and a piece of plate is going to be presented to the latter gentleman for his indefatigable and philanthropic exertions. About forty of those who voted for Trelawney were directly or indirectly under the influence of the Duke of Bedford; and about thirty under that of the great capitalists of the town."

**REPRESENTATION OF RIPON.**—No small degree of surprise was manifested in Ripon on Monday last in consequence of an address issued by Thomas Pemberton, Esq., stating his retirement from public life, and the termination of his political connection with this city and borough. A vacancy consequent upon the ill health of Sir George Cockburn was in some measure looked for, but it was never anticipated that Mr Pemberton would retire in so sudden a manner, or that Mr T. B. C. Smith, the Irish attorney-general, would, as was stated a few weeks ago, be pitchforked into this borough as his successor. On Tuesday afternoon, the writ was proclaimed, and about the same time the cathedral bells announced the arrival of the candidate. Mr Smith addressed a meeting numbering between 40 and 50 persons, and thus terminated his electioneering exertions. The election took place on Saturday. Mr Smith was proposed and seconded, and declared duly elected—no other candidate having been proposed. The proceedings did not occupy an hour altogether. So much for that final perfection of equal representation secured to us by the Reform bill.

**CAMBRIDGE.**—It is a significant fact that while the daily papers have devoted column upon column to this contest between the two opposing factions, they have been able to spare but a few lines for an account of the Tavistock election—an election indicating to a much greater extent the current which public opinion is taking. During the past week, meetings and riots—speechmaking and canvassing, have kept the borough of Cambridge in a state of constant excitement. The conservative candidate was Mr Fitz-

roy Kelly; whig, Mr R. Foster of Brookland. The nomination took place on Saturday. Mr Kelly was proposed by W. Hopkins, Esq., A.M., and seconded by Mr Alderman Fisher. Mr Foster by H. Gunning, Esq., A.M., and Mr Harris. Both candidates then shook hands, and both addressed the electors. The show of hands was in favour of Mr Kelly. The polling took place on Monday. Until three o'clock, Mr Foster was considerably a-head of his opponent, when all of a sudden the tide turned, evidently by some controlling or all-persuasive influence, and at the close of the poll the numbers were, for Mr Kelly, 714; for Mr Foster 681; majority, 33.

#### ANTI-CORN-LAW AGITATION.

During the past week the agitation for the repeal of the corn laws has been resuscitated in the provinces, and large meetings have been held at Stroud, Bristol, and Southampton. At the former place an audience of from 1,400 to 1,500 were assembled to greet Mr R. R. Moore and Col P. Thompson, as a deputation from the League. Earl Ducie presided, and said that he "had been converted to the principles of free trade by the meanness of their opponents." Effective addresses were delivered by Col Thompson and Mr Moore; and, at the close of the meeting, the latter gentleman stated that the amount contributed to the League fund by Stroud was £275, of which £50 was paid by the working classes.

At Bristol an overflowing audience were assembled. Colonel Thompson, in his humorous and effective address, thus defended himself against the misrepresentations of Lord Brougham:—

"You all remember an extraordinary attack made on a member of the League in a place where he, luckily, had the opportunity to defend himself; and I suspect he did it after such a sort as is very likely to make the assailant think twice before he commits himself again [laughter and cheers]. Now, not to make little things ridiculous by comparing them with great, I still cannot help thinking I also see a certain necessity for endeavouring to establish my purity of hands before you, ere I go further. There really was an attack, in the report of certain proceedings which I have seen in both the *Times* and the *Morning Chronicle* of yesterday, against a certain speech, which my mind misgives me I must have spoken in some sort, though not exactly as there represented, and I do not happen to know anybody else who spoke anything like it. I hope, therefore, I may meet with pardon or excuse, even if I should happen to be wrong on this occasion. But I do see a fierce and unmeasured attack, from a quarter where I am sure the memories of 'auld lang syne,' if nothing else, forbid us to comment with any bitterness; yet representations of such a kind, as I cannot avoid attempting to parry here in this western metropolis of our country. Is there anything less natural, more contrary to the feelings of an Englishman, than assassination? You heard how a weak and feeble minister, as I thought him, could find no way of parrying the arguments advanced against him in parliament, but by endeavouring to charge the most benevolent individual he could have fixed upon, with encouraging something of that kind. Well, I laughed at him; I will laugh at him again, and so will you; and thereon is built this miserable misrepresentation, that I laughed and made merriment of assassination, and not of him who made a foolish charge upon it [cheers]. I did, it is true, state my opinion of what would have been the excessive timidity, the outrageous feebleness of any man, who had felt real and sincere apprehension under the circumstances I have alluded to; but I also said that I did not believe in that timidity—that I accounted it to be a stratagem, and a most poor one—a stratagem that not one of us the implicated was at all likely to yield to; and this is the misrepresentation I complain of. I call it a 'breach of privilege,' and complain accordingly. I complain in this popular assembly, that a man cannot in a popular assembly state the truth, but he must have it misrepresented 'in another place'—that is the expression for it. The only solution I can discover for it is, that the gentleman who carried the report must have been the most incompetent gentleman that ever carried anything between the Crown and Anchor and any other house in her Majesty's dominions [laughter]."

Mr Bright of Rochdale, Mr Moore, and the Hon. H. Berkeley, M.P. for the city, were the other principal speakers, and were warmly received.

The demonstration at Southampton took place on Monday week, and was attended by nearly 1,000 persons, though the tickets for admission (the business of the evening being preceded by a tea meeting) were one shilling each. A large number of ladies were present; and, notwithstanding the ill repute which has been brought upon the town by the frequent interruptions of public meetings on the part of a portion of the working classes, there was not the slightest symptom of disorder. Francis Cooper, Esq., occupied the chair, and the principal reformers of the borough were present. Colonel Thompson, Mr Cobden, and Mr Moore attended as a deputation from the League, and delivered most powerful addresses in support of the principle of free trade. At the close about £50 was subscribed towards the League fund. The meeting is said to have been one of the most interesting ever held in the town.

**ANTI-SLAVERY MEETINGS.**—Meetings have been held at Leeds and Worcester to petition parliament against consenting to ratify the 10th article of Lord Ashburton's treaty with America. This article, it appears, may be so construed as to render it necessary for fugitive slaves from the United States, who have sought refuge in Canada, to be delivered up to the tender mercies of their masters, if the latter can persuade a single justice of the peace in the colony that the negroes have robbed them; and as the negroes must have some clothes on, which belong to their masters, it is feared that the possession of these may be construed into a robbery. The case is a pressing and important one, especially when it is remembered that the slaves who escape annually from the United States to Canada are very numerous: last year about 1,500 there sought a refuge from oppression, and it is computed that there are not fewer than 12,000 who have taken the same step within the last few years, and who are now enjoying British protection.

**EVIDENCE OF DISTRESS.**—There are upwards of three hundred houses unoccupied in the borough of Knaresborough, which contains a population of little more than 5,000 souls. This alarming fact at once shows the depressed state of the agriculturists and flax trade in this district, who are unable to get even a small remuneration for their produce, and are actually labouring for nothing.—*Leeds Mercury*.

**EARTHQUAKE IN LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.**—A slight shock of an earthquake was felt on Friday week, in the district north-east of Manchester. This appears to have been the third shock that has been felt in that neighbourhood during the last few years—one having occurred in August, 1835, and the second in June, 1839. We have now to mention, that another and a more violent shock, or rather shocks, for in most instances two were felt, occurred a few minutes before one o'clock on the morning of Friday last, and that in Liverpool, Manchester, Lancaster, St Helen's, Preston, and, in short, in almost the whole of Lancashire and Cheshire, from which accounts have yet reached, either one or both was generally experienced; they followed each other in such rapid succession that to many they appeared to be simultaneous. In Liverpool and the neighbourhood they were very distinct, an interval of from ten to fifteen seconds having elapsed between each. It was preceded by a rise in the temperature and a dimness of the moon; and the effects in all cases appear to have been similar in many respects—namely, an agitation of the floors, windows, and furniture of houses, and a lifting up of the beds. The *Liverpool Standard* gives the substance of various descriptions of the shock, the most distinct of which is that furnished by Mr Whitty, the head constable residing near the docks.

He was in the parlour of his house, taking a cup of coffee, when he suddenly heard and felt a violent agitation of the windows of the whole house, and of the floor in the room in which he was sitting. Being accustomed to hear loud explosions from the works in Albert dock, now being excavated, which is at no great distance, he was not much surprised at the noise; but at the same time he observed to Mrs Whitty that he thought the excavators had purposely caused the explosion to take place underneath his windows. In less than a minute afterwards another shock followed, infinitely more violent than the first; the house here shook from top to bottom, and a violent rumbling noise was heard under it. The shock and the noise were so loud and violent as to awaken all the family who had retired, and, as if by consent, they assembled on the stairs in a state of great alarm. After this the house was examined; and it was found that the windows on the second floor had been forced open by the shock, and some furniture had received a trifling displacement, but no damage was done, and the alarm soon subsided. The *Liverpool Albion* says—

"In one or two instances, the guards of railway trains and stage-coaches were distinctly sensible of an unusual motion. The extraordinary sensation on the Holyhead and Chester mail caused much alarm to the guard and passengers. It appears that the shock was very generally noticed in Wales. The *Liverpool Chronicle* gives the statement of a correspondent, who slept at Holywell on the morning in question, who avers that his bed was violently shaken, as if a strong man had suddenly exerted his strength upon it. We have also heard from another source, that the agitation of some houses in Holywell was so great as to cause the bells to ring for several seconds."

The *Manchester Guardian* has the following account:—

"We find that various police constables in the C division, though they felt no shock, heard the violent rattling and shaking of the windows and doors of houses in Ardwick, New Islington, Robert street, Fairfield street, Upper Brook street, &c., and in several instances listened, suspecting thieves were inside; but they seem to have experienced nothing which led them to suppose it an earthquake. In some instances the inmates rose in fright, dressed themselves, and walked in the street till morning. At Strangeways, Broughton, Kersall, Prestwich, and the outskirts north of Manchester, the shock seems to have been very distinctly perceptible; and it is stated that there was scarcely a house in Broughton lane in which the shock was not felt. At Suspension bridge a lady, terrified from the apprehension that thieves were in the house, opened the window and called the police. A policeman, who was near, assured her that she need feel no alarm as to thieves, for it was only an earthquake!"

The *Guardian* notices a peculiar circumstance—

"One circumstance we may notice, which may or may not be connected with the earthquake. About an hour previous, we observed that the moon, which was full at 6 o'clock on Thursday morning, although shining unclouded, presented a dim and filmy appearance, as though a thin veil of cloud were drawn over her whole disc."

The shock at Preston was more violent—

"Its approach was intimated by an unnatural buzzing noise, gradually increasing louder and louder until the moment when the subterranean convulsion passed a given point, and then the sound and the effects produced on the instant became very alarming; windows and doors rattling, nay, the very houses apparently staggering to their foundations. The watchmen of the town and the public officers on night duty describe the sensation which it excited as awfully appalling, the ground appearing to them to be sinking under them, and themselves feeling as though they were descending to a great depth. The bells rang in several houses, and great alarm was experienced in many families."

The shock occasioned considerable alarm at Fleetwood—

"At the commencement of the second shock, the watchman at the lower lighthouse heard a rumbling noise from the east, which soon appeared to approach the spot, and was immediately succeeded by a considerable vibration from below. A sound resembling subterranean thunder accompanied the tremulous motion of the ground, which lasted several seconds, during which the houses of the inhabitants were so shaken as to wake almost every inmate and cause several wine bottles, &c., to fall from shelves. The upper lighthouse in particular, a high isolated column, was felt to rock quite sufficiently to alarm the lightkeeper. The sea rose unusually high, and the Prince of Wales steamer, which was on her voyage from Belfast to Fleetwood at the moment of the shock, encountered a suddenly boisterous sea, for which the captain could not account, as the shock was not otherwise felt on board.

It appears also to have been felt in Yorkshire. The *Leeds Times* says—

"We are informed that at Huddersfield and the neighbourhood on Friday last, at about twenty-five minutes past eight, a.m., the shock was very distinctly felt by the

inhabitants. In some parts of the house it caused the articles hanging to the walls distinctly to vibrate, whilst in others nothing but a low rumbling noise, and a tremulous motion of the buildings was felt.

A Guernsey paper also records a similar phenomenon.

A shock of an earthquake was distinctly felt in this island a little before one o'clock on the morning of Friday last. It was accompanied by a noise resembling the rumbling of a carriage, and is described by those who felt it to have proceeded vertically from the earth. A gentleman residing at Mount Durand states that he distinctly saw the furniture in his bed room agitated by the shock. The Jersey papers state that the shock was felt in that island nearly at the same time.

#### IRELAND.

DESPERATE RESISTANCE TO THE POOR RATES.—A correspondent of the *Dublin Evening Mail*, in a letter from Waterford, dated March 14th, gives the following alarming account:

Waterford, March 14.—Amongst the many exhibitions witnessed in the city of Waterford, of large assemblages of people parading through the town, one took place yesterday of a very formidable and alarming description. About one o'clock, p.m., a body of about 3,000 men marched into the city from the county of Kilkenny side of the river, and were joined by another party, who came from the direction of Donmore, &c. These two parties, when united, did not consist of less than 5,000 men, and they were allowed to march through different parts of the town nearly two hours. At length, I believe, it was told the magistrates (I only saw two) that they intended to demolish the poor-house. The military were then called out, about three o'clock; but ere then the crowd had satisfied themselves by making those demonstrations of strength and force which they previously designed. At one time it was supposed they had meditated an attack upon the gaol. What was most remarkable in the display was the perfect discipline of this immense assemblage. They marched with the greatest precision and regularity in sections of ten, and every section was headed by a captain or officer. In short, a regiment of the guards could not have shown greater order and regularity. It was said that the display took place to prove their determined resistance to the collection of poor rates, but I doubt much that they have other, and perhaps much more dangerous, views and designs; lamentable proofs of which, I fear, will, at no very distant period, be felt throughout most parts of this kingdom. There was not a man of this vast body to be seen tipsy (so much for Father Mathew), and they observed perfect silence on their march; and when such assemblages are to be witnessed parading through a city like Waterford in open day, I would ask what may be expected hereafter, under some other pretext, if the flame be fanned? But it has since been ascertained that there were fully 2,000 men, armed with fire-arms, in the neighbourhood of the town, ready to come in upon a call (with bands of music). Large parades of teetotalers frequently take place here, and I firmly believe those exhibitions are made more for the purpose of drill and display of strength than with any good intent."

THE REPEAL MOVEMENT.—The "reformed" corporations of Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Waterford, Clonmel, Drogheda, and Sligo, have now, each and all, determined upon adopting petitions to parliament, praying for the restoration of the Irish legislature as it existed in the haleyon year of '82. The preliminary step being taken, the further mode of procedure, as at present contemplated, is said to be this:—So soon as the petitions are duly drawn up, a deputation is to be selected from each body, headed by the mayor, and all are to proceed, on a day hereafter to be named, in mock ceremony to St Stephen's, then and there to submit their modest demands to the justice of the "Saxon" parliament.—*Times.*

#### Miscellaneous.

CAPTURE OF A SLAVER.—The Persian, 16, sloop, commander T. N. Eden, appears to be very fortunate in her cruises against pirates and slavers. Another gallant exploit of an officer belonging to this sloop is narrated in a letter brought to this port by a vessel from the coast of Africa. The Persian was off Whydah, in the bight of Benin, when, early in the morning of the 17th of December a large suspicious-looking vessel was descried at some distance. The master of the Persian, Mr Birdwood (of Plymouth), who was in command of two boats with a crew of six men in each, immediately pushed towards her, and, finding that she was desirous to avoid communication, Mr Birdwood, although with so small a force, determined to board her, and after four hours' chase—tugging at the oars under a broiling sun—the Persian's boats got alongside. The vessel in the mean time used every effort to escape. As the boats advanced, she endeavoured to retard them by using the guns with which she was armed; and when the boats closed she was inclined to make a stout resistance. But, with their characteristic mettle, the boats' crews, headed by the master, grappled the vessel, fearlessly dashed on board, and in a few seconds, although their opponents were treble in number, and armed with muskets, cutlasses, and pistols, drove them below, and established themselves in possession without the loss of a man. They found their prize to be a Portuguese slaver, a fine brig of 218 tons. She had mounted two long guns, which were loaded with canister shot, and had a complement of 36 men. Mr Birdwood soon after joined his sloop, which was about five miles distant, when he and his companions were congratulated by his brother officers and ship's company on the success of their enterprise. The prisoners were put on shore at Whydah, and their valuable prize was sent into Sierra Leone for adjudication. There is no doubt Mr Birdwood's gallant conduct will not escape the attention of the Admiralty.—*Standard.*

WRECKS OF THE CONQUEROR AND RELIANCE.—The *Observateur de Boulogne* contains a letter from Montreuil-sur-Mer, asserting why assistance was not

rendered to the Conqueror when she struck by the boatmen of the coast arose from the fact of their being prohibited from putting their boats to sea by the custom-house officers, who, drawn up in a line on the beach, threatened to fire on any one who attempted to disobey their orders. When this cruel interference took place the tide was out, and there would have been comparatively little difficulty in reaching the shipwrecked vessel. The letter adds, that it is of importance to know why such an order should have been given to the custom-house officers, as, but for the obstruction offered by them, the number of the saved might have exceeded that when the Reliance was lost.

MISCHIEF OF INCLOSURE ACTS.—In passing inclosure acts, the legislature has for a long time past manifested a disregard for the rights of the poor, which has very greatly contributed to that state of destitution in which the agricultural labourers of this country are involved; and to the increase of discontent, disorder, and crime, consequent upon that state of destitution. In this way the cupidity of the rich, in "laying field to field" has been productive of great social mischief, by usurping the humble rights of the poor; depriving them of the means of honest subsistence and comfort; thereby alienating their affections from the higher classes, and placing them more than ever within the influence of temptations to those crimes which render life and property insecure. The poor cottager has as good a title in law to his commonable right, as the lord of the manor to his manorial privileges. But the "transcendent power" of an act of parliament has but too often taken away the rights of the poor man without compensation; and that merely to swell out the possessions of already overgrown and unwieldy wealth. The history of the world proves, if revealed wisdom did not assert it, that there is a moral principle at work which, sooner or later, makes injustice its own punishment. The injustice done to the labouring poor of this country by an opulent and aristocratic legislature, for a series of years past, has brought its own punishment in its consequences. The crimes to which the poor have been driven by the cupidity of their superiors—the outrages, the disorders, and burnings, which disgrace and devastate the fairest portions of the country, either constantly or by periodical ebullitions of popular phrenzy—have awakened some attention, even in parliament, to the causes of that rustic demoralisation which has produced, and is producing, such deplorable results. There are few persons now, either in or out of parliament, who are hardy enough to deny, that one of the chief causes of the misery and crime which prevail among the labouring poor, is the deprivation of the little portions of land which belonged to that class formerly; but which during the late war, and since, were taken from them and thrown into large farms, to increase the nominal rent-roll of the land-owner. The inclosure acts, which deprived the cottager of grass for a cow, &c., were acts of confiscation as far as the rights of the poor were concerned. His rood of ground was taken from him to be let at a higher rent to some "man of capital;" and the operation of the inclosure act was such, that "even the bare-worn common was denied."—*From the Morning Herald, 1833. Quantum mutatus ab illo!*

READING THE WILL.—The will of a "rich gentleman" was opened at an hotel at the west end one day lately. Each party looked "unutterable things" when the reader, after the usual opening, began as follows:—"I leave to my dear friend, Col. G—, ten thousand pounds, 3 per cents.; and to my esteemed cousin, George W—ll, the like sum; and in consideration of the uniform kindness of my nephews and nieces, I leave them each, &c., &c., with the usual bequests to executors, servants, funeral expenses," &c.; in the whole, a long string of legacies, with the eternal good wishes of the deceased. "Signed, sealed, and delivered by me, in the presence of," &c. All parties would have been satisfied had it finished thus; but the reader started, and with a look of surprise (for he was included in the donations), said, Here is a codicil! and with a sigh, the sincerity of which would, consequently, not be doubted, he read aloud that which his eye had hastily scanned—"Codicil: if I had died possessed of the wealth herein stated, I should have left it to these, my dear and valued friends. But I have been imprudent, and since making my will, I have lost twice the sum therein set down, and perhaps, have not more to leave than may be required to bury me; my dear and kind friends must, therefore, take the will for the deed."—*Court Gazette.*

ADVANTAGE OF A PROPERTY QUALIFICATION EXEMPLIFIED.—It is said that in the elections of one of the New England states, the property qualification required in an elector was the possession of land, house, cattle, or other substance, of the clear value of twenty pounds. An elector who followed the humble but useful occupation of a market-gardener, possessed a valuable ass, on which he transported his produce to market; and in the registry of his name, as an elector, he entered this useful animal, which was of the full value of twenty pounds, as his qualification. He had voted on this for several years, without question or objection; but it unfortunately happened that, on the day preceding the last election, the ass met with an accident and was killed. Its possessor, hardly supposing that this would make any difference in his own position as a voter, repaired to the polling booth on the following morning and tendered his vote; but the friends of the opposite candidate having communicated the fact of the death of his ass to the officer appointed to receive the votes, the voter was rejected, on the ground of his qualification being void. On hearing this, the man exclaimed, "Well! I had always thought the vote was mine, since I alone had the

determination of how it should be disposed of; but it is clear to me now that the vote belonged to the ass, and not to myself, and I must have acted as trustee for my donkey. If the vote had been mine, I could have exercised it to-day, as on all former occasions; as I have the same interest in making a good choice, and the same capacity to do it. But the ass being dead, and the vote becoming extinct with him, what can be more certain than this—that the vote was the ass's?—for on no other supposition can it be rejected."—*J. S. Buckingham.*

MUSIC.—Music must have been the gift of God. Man did not communicate to the extended wire its vibrations; man did not give to the surrounding air its undulatory motion; man did not organise the ear to such exact responsiveness, or the brain to such acute sensibility of what the ear conveys. Man could not have made music, had God not intended it. The power was his, and the gift was his: man has possession, and thinks it his own. It administers to his pleasures, it buys him applause of men, it feeds his unhallowed passions, drives away thought, and helps to make him happy, in forgetfulness of what he is, and is to be. For these purposes, the worldly parent, if she find talent in a child, takes possession of it, expends upon it no small portion of another talent committed to her keeping, and occupies with it a fourth, or sixth, or an eighth part of her children's years of youth—perhaps the only years that ever will be theirs—and her heart never misgives her that she has perverted the gift, or defrauded the giver of this talent. The Christian mother follows her example, through not with the same motive. The talent is now divested of all unhallowed purposes and dangerous effects. It is acquired without vanity, and used without ostentation. Instead of leading the young performer into company, to exhibit herself for admiration, it now contributes to make the excitement of mixed society unnecessary, by supplying her with innocent amusement at home. Never let the listener be supposed to say a word against the use that is made, in such families, of this delightful talent—the evening recreation of a well-spent day, the home festival of domestic cheerfulness and affection, or the solace, perhaps, of some anxious, lonely hour. I believe that music stands thus in families, entirely divested of every injurious application, and administering to one part of the Creator's purpose—the happiness of man. But I do question if it is made anywhere, so much as it might be, subservient to the other—the service and honour of the giver; or even to the first, in the best and highest sense of the word, happiness.—*The Listener, by Caroline Fry.*

BOARDING SCHOOL EPISTLES.—Master Peter Doddle to his Parents (*Very nicely written in small-hand*). "My dear Parents,—I have written to inform you that our Midsummer recess commences on Wednesday, June 17; and our vacation will terminate on Friday, July 24th. I trust you will find I have made creditable progress in the various branches of study I have pursued during the past half-year. Anticipating much pleasure in meeting you, believe me to remain, my dear parents, your affectionate son, PETER DODDLE. —*Apsley House Academy, Peckham.*" [Over-leaf, in another hand, and apparently much hurried:—"Dear mother old Fuzzy-scratch has gone out of the Room and I write this on the sly I writ the other fourteen Times Before the writing master let it Go and now he has Put all new Capitals in and painted every letter all over I didn't make it up as we all writ the same which was chalked by Mr. Splitnib on the black Board and we copied it except the orphans who didn't write holiday letters at All please I want a new Pair of trowsers by when I come home as These are all in strips and no Buttons because the boys have cribbed the moulds out of them to make teetotums to spin on their slates and I tie them up With string which cuts my shoulders and please all my socks are wore out and my shoes haven't no soles which Lets in water and Young monk took the crown of my hat to make a target and then Borrowed my watch to turn into a steam engine which didn't do and now he can't put it together again because he's lost some wheels which he says Won't hinder its going At all I havn't got any money and Owe ninepence So I think I had better borrow some of Wimples Because he isn't coming back again after the holidays unless you Send me some so no more at Present from your dutiful son Peter doddle."—*From the Wassail Bowl.*

THE CAPTAIN'S PUDDING.—The following story is told of a Yankee captain and his mate: "Whenever there was a plum pudding made by the captain's orders, all of the plums were put into one end of it, and that end placed next to the captain—who, after helping himself, passed it to the mate, who never found any plums in his part of it. Well, after this game had been played for some time, the mate prevailed on the steward to place the end which had no plums in it to the captain. The captain no sooner saw the pudding than he discovered he had the wrong end of it. Picking up the dish, and turning it in his hands as if merely examining the china, he said, "This dish cost me two shillings in Liverpool," and put it down again, as though without design, with the plum end next to himself. The captain looked at the mate, and the mate looked at the captain; the captain laughed, the mate laughed. "I tell you what, young one," said the captain, "you've found me out; so we'll just cut the pudding lengthwise this time, and have the plums fairly distributed hereafter."

## Literature.

*A History of the Reformation on the Continent*, by GEORGE WADDINGTON, D.D., Dean of Durham. In 3 vols. London: Duncan and Malcolm.

THERE are, as everybody who has thought on the subject knows, many difficulties connected with the doctrine of our personal identity. We have lately been made very uncomfortable on the subject; having been troubled with strong sensations of inexplicable incongruity; a feeling, like to that of "a sick man's dream," that every thing was upside down, and ourselves in impossible situations, till consciousness has got into a whirl—we are giddy—and can think no more. We seem to remember a day when Rome was, at least, a hemisphere farther off from us than it is now; when the triple-crown was nothing more than a fool's cap, and a cardinal's dress associated rather with wax-work than reality; when even "the scarlet individual" was only an old woman—a kind of ex-witch of Endor, who had outlived her sorceries, and was trying to keep up a little heat over the dying embers of her chimney corner. Are we the same? if so, all around is very different. Rome now educates our clergy, and is the point to which every Christian turns in his prayers. The communion table has become an altar, and the lights are no longer *ignes fatui*. Every Christian makes it a point of honour to walk backward; the shabby old fathers, electro-typed at Oxford, look better than new; they who had put away childish things, are as busy with robes and faldstools and prostrations as with the baby-houses of their infancy. The motto appearing in the advertisement of a late sermon by Mr Hamilton (a comma being left out), might (gender not forbidding) be adopted on the title page of some history of modern Christianity—"Satis jam altercatum et clamatum est Luther." Between Democritus and Heraclitus, we stand in doubt. Shall we laugh or weep? The interests are too grave for the former; the incongruities too absurd for the latter.

A work like Dr Waddington's is eminently calculated for such times. It is laborious, candid, and original. The author in his modest preface tells us that he has devoted to it the labours of "seven assiduous years." These pains confess themselves; and impart to the Dean of Durham's work a massiveness and solidity which is in this day somewhat unusual. The present volumes, ending with the death of Luther, are intended to be followed by a fourth, carrying down the history to the end of the reformation.

A very prominent place is of course occupied by the character of the great reformer himself. He is at all times "a fine study"—especially for such degenerate days as ours. We see a man—such in its emphatic sense he was—of great talents and much learning; strong in impulse and fervid in temperament; bowed down at first by the oppressive weight of authority; but a lover of truth, though he knows not yet its thaumaturgic power. He resolves—what few men so situated do—to see. Gradually it is as if the film of a cataract slowly removes itself from his spiritual eye, and at each successive trial he discerns more and more. His former circle will no longer confine his expanding soul, and circumstances strangely combine around, to urge him from the spot he has occupied, and to force on him convictions he never dreamt of.

Discovery creates disgust—disgust prompts to action. He becomes an object of alarm to his faint-hearted friends, and of terror to his enraged enemies. Every venomous reptile which had nestled in its corner of corruption spits at him. It is not surprising if now and then he shrinks back. But he has caught hold of the clue of truth, and resolves that all the dangers of the labyrinth shall not deter him. His natural ardour kindles up into a holy enthusiasm. He feels that he is performing something great and terrible. Men wonder at him; he no less wonders at himself. To him authority, priestcraft, antiquity, are spectres only. Truth alone is real. Sent up, though it be, under a mountain's weight, he resolves that it shall no longer be hid. In spite of opposition—like the Leviathan to whom "darts are as stubble"—unmoved by the roaring of ten thousand "bulls of Bashan," he drags it from its concealment into open day.

Such was the work God set before Luther; and the work which he gave him grace to execute. The qualifications necessary for his task sufficiently describe his own, with those exceptions which, alas! human frailty always manifests. His mould was that of Elijah and John the Baptist. He must be judged of by the standard of strength rather than of elegance. The labours of Hercules do not comport with the delicate proportions of Antinous. We think that this principle of judgment is often overlooked, and sometimes in the volumes before us. We occasionally regret that measured and wary caution which shrinks from speaking too boldly in favour of such a man. Johnson liked "a good hater;" we like "a good lover." A disposition to balancing where right and wrong are concerned is, we submit, a mistake. Truth is not a neutral point.

We have perused the work, however, with sin-

gular pleasure. If not faultless, it is very valuable. The portraits are principally self-drawn; so much so that we sometimes almost forget that the work has an author at all; a somewhat equivocal compliment, it may seem, but in reality a high praise. The style is clear, varied, vigorous, and often eloquent.

We extract the following passage. It will afford a specimen of the excellencies and faults of the work. It relates to Luther's journey to Worms:

"The principal towns through which his road lay were in commotion as he drew near to them. The celebrity of the man, and the grievous and fearful object of his present expedition, awakened curiosity or sympathy in every breast. At Erfurt especially he was received with acclamation, and attended in numerous procession. Every one was eager to behold the insurgent monk who stood alone in the face of all Christendom as the antagonist of the pontiff of Rome. Many offered up their ardent vows for his success. There were many, too, who trembled for him—they were aware how many cardinals and prelates were assembled at Worms—they knew their feelings and their principles—they had read the bloody story of Huss and Jerome, and they predicted a repetition of the same perfidious barbarity. But Luther was undaunted. 'Should they light a fire,' he exclaimed, 'which should blaze as high as heaven, and reach from Wittemburg to Worms, at Worms I will still appear in the name of the Lord, and overthrow the Behemoth.' With the same courage he wrote from Francfort to Spalatin—'I hear that the Emperor has published a mandate to terrify me. But Christ lives in spite of it, and I will enter Worms, though all the gates of hell and the powers of darkness should oppose me.' And again, 'I am determined to overawe Satan and to treat him with scorn.' \* \* \* If vanity or ambition were among the motives of Luther, the manner of his reception at Worms was alone reward sufficient for all his toils and anxieties. A twice condemned, excommunicated heretic, he presented himself for judgment rather than trial before the universal assembly of his countrymen, and in the presence of all Christendom—yet his entry was a sort of triumphal procession. The imperial herald marched before him in his habits of ceremony; around him was a numerous body of Saxon nobles, and other gentlemen and courtiers who had gone forth to meet him, while the streets were crowded by anxious multitudes of a lower rank, who testified their interest in his cause, and their regard for his profession, by escorting him to his appointed residence. His confidence was redoubled by this spectacle. And, as he descended from his carriage and looked round upon that immense concourse, he exclaimed aloud, in a voice as it were inspired by prophetic assurance—'God will be on my side.'

This is good writing; yet specimens as good are abundant. The work is beautifully printed.

*Puseyite Divinity. A Review of Sermons on Various Subjects*, by the Rev. W. F. Hook, D.D., vicar of Leeds, &c. Reprinted, by permission of the Editor, from the *Eclectic Review* for Nov., 1842. pp. 24. London: T. Ward and Co. 1843.

"WE should know this hand!" If it do not belong to one of our recent prize-essayists, we have no skill in augury. The abrupt period—the dogmatic yet apposite sententiousness—the frequent and often recondite allusion—the oratorical cadence—the unused scriptural phrase so forcibly applied, confess their original. The author has "done the state some service" by this apposite publication, and we think Dr Hook will have no reason to congratulate himself on its appearance. The tract is very cheap, and we wish it an extensive circulation, as a compendious and pointed refutation of the Oxford heresy.

*A General History of Animalcules. Illustrated by Five Hundred Engraved Drawings*. By ANDREW PRITCHARD, M.R.S. London: Whittaker and Co.

Most people are familiar with the frightful monsters which may be disclosed to view in a single drop of water, when subjected to the magnifying power of the oxy-hydrogen microscope; and yet, beyond the mere fact of the existence of these wonderful little creatures, how little is for the most part known of their natures and organisation. It is a branch of natural history that is but little cultivated in the present day. This, doubtless, in a measure arises from the extreme difficulty of successfully pursuing our investigations in this direction, without the aid of most delicate apparatus for that purpose. And yet the history of this singular section of animated nature, is as interesting, and certainly more wonderful, than any subject of human research. To those desirous of a general acquaintance with these vari-formed creatures, the volume before us will be found eminently useful. In addition to the most curious details respecting the structure, organs, and habits, and the distinctive characteristics of each genus, Mr Pritchard has furnished ample directions for capturing, selecting, and examining them, together with upwards of 500 drawings, illustrative of their shapes and conformation. On the latter head, Mr P. says—"Some are egg-shaped; others resemble spheres; others, again, different kinds of fruit, eels, serpents, and many classes of the invertebrate animals, funnels, tops, cylinders, pitchers, wheels, flasks, &c., &c." We conclude with an extract from the preface, in which he justly observes—

"In no branch of natural history are drawings of the subjects more necessary. With this impression, the author not only gave a greater number than is contained in any previous volume, but devoted much time and expense in the introduction of accurate details. This augmented the cost; many persons have been thereby prevented from obtaining that work. In the present tract this is obviated, the price being reduced to the utmost."

*The North of England Magazine*, for January, February, and March. Manchester: J. Gillett.

THIS able periodical displays much of that vigour and manly independence which are still characteristic of the population among whom it is chiefly circulated. However much we may condemn the latter for their too great propensity to money-getting, to the exclusion of other important considerations; there are still many redeeming qualities, which the spirit of aristocracy and refinement have not wholly obliterated. Earnestness, sincerity, and a warm-hearted hospitality, are still to be found among the active sons of Lancashire. The conventionalism of modern society has not altogether banished the simplicity of nature. The *North of England Magazine* is a fair representative of the best specimens

of this class. Did it possess no other recommendations, we would commend it for its freedom from that mawkish sentimentalism that imbues so much of our periodical literature. Though a considerable portion of its space is devoted to the advocacy of corn-law repeal, there is much beside that makes its contents both varied and interesting. Many articles of a descriptive character are written with much vigour, freshness, and apparent truthfulness. A periodical numbering among its contributors the names of Bowring, Thompson, Cobden, Taylor, McCullagh, and Bright, needs no further recommendation.

## Religious Intelligence.

**RODBOROUGH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.**—Mr B. Backhouse, of Spring hill college, Birmingham, has accepted an unanimous invitation from the church and congregation of Rodborough tabernacle, near Stroud, to become their pastor. We understand that Mr Backhouse purposes entering on his stated pastoral duties in July next.

**LAMBETH.**—The Rev. R. Alliott, L.L.D., of Nottingham, has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastoral office from the church and congregation assembling in York Road chapel, Lambeth.

**KENSINGTON.**—The Rev. J. Berg, having resigned his office as pastor of the baptist church, Kensington, has accepted an unanimous invitation to become pastor of the baptist church, Tewkesbury, and will enter upon his duties the first Sabbath in April. On Tuesday, March 14, at a public meeting, the church and congregation at Kensington, presented Mr Berg with a commentary on the sacred scriptures, as a token of their esteem and affection for him.

**DEAL.**—The Rev. Mr Vincent, who for upwards of forty years has officiated as the pastor of the congregational church in this town, having resigned the charge of the church, the Rev. Mr Brown came for a short time on probation; and having received an almost unanimous call to become the successor to Mr Vincent in the ministerial duties, commenced those labours on Sunday morning last.—*Dover Chronicle*.

**MONTREAL.**—We understand that a second church of the Independent denomination is about being formed in this city, under the pastoral care of Mr Carruthers. Regarding this as an accession of strength to the cause of evangelical piety, we cordially wish "God speed" to the esteemed pastor and his flock.—*Montreal Register*.

**WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION, BODMIN, CORNWALL.**—On Thursday, the 9th, and on Lord's day, the 12th inst., a neat and commodious Wesleyan association chapel, was opened for public worship, in a densely peopled part of the above chief county town. This handsome building has been erected on the site of a nonconformist place of worship, formerly raised for an eminent minister—Mr Henry Hamank, who was ejected in 1662 for nonconformity, from the rectory of Lanivet, an adjacent parish, by the saddening enactment of the celebrated intolerant Bartholomew act, so fatal to the establishment and religion, by throwing overboard from its communion upwards of 2,000 worthy, learned, pious, and orthodox divines, who could not, for conscience' sake, come up to the stringent requirements of that baneful act of uniformity which proved so oppressive to the rights of conscience and of private judgment. The religious services were conducted, on the 9th, by the Rev. James Tayer, association minister of Camelford, who preached in the afternoon; and those of the evening by the Rev. — Hulme, independent minister of Bodmin, who, in the most liberal manner, cheerfully afforded his valuable assistance, by preaching an impressive discourse on the occasion. The Rev. W. Patterson, association minister of Liskeard, commenced the services of the evening by giving out the hymns, reading the scriptures, and prayer. At the close of Mr Hulme's interesting discourse, a neat and suitable address was given by the Rev. George Robinson, association minister of Camelford, on the distinctive scriptural position which the Wesleyan association has taken in the midst of the other dissenting churches. On Lord's day, the 12th, Messrs Bailey and Jennings, association preachers of Camelford, continued these interesting services—the former preaching in the morning, the latter in the afternoon and evening. The services throughout were of a very interesting character, and the attendance thereon was full, and often crowded, producing a delightful impression on the congregations, that the nucleus of another church was formed on the voluntary and independent principles. The sums contributed were not only liberal, but beyond what could have been expected, from the pressure of the times. Thus another handsome chapel has been raised, and that in the chief county town, by a body of nonconformists (for such in a double sense they are), who, in the short space of six to seven years, have had to raise and purchase some hundreds of places of worship—upwards of fifty of which have been so built or purchased in Cornwall alone. Thus, it may truly be said, "What hath God wrought" in behalf of the "oppressed ones;" and in the quaint language of Coverdale, "Meat went out from the devourer, and sweetness from the mighty."

**BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.**—On Thursday, 12th January, the Rev. Edward Jukes, late of Byron st chapel, Leeds, was publicly recognised as the pastor of the congregational church assembling in James st chapel, recently erected in this town. Ministers engaged—the Rev. R. W. Hamilton of Leeds, and J. Jukes of Bedford, who respectively addressed the minister and the people; the Rev. A. Fraser, G. Wardlaw, and F. Skinner, of the Scottish secession church. A large party, assembled for refreshment in the school room of the chapel, was addressed by ministers of various denominations; and, in the evening, a united communion service was held, to

which members of all evangelical churches were invited. Ministers engaged—the Rev. Messrs E. Jukes, A. Fraser, R. Slate, D. T. Caruson, R. Lang, and R. W. Hamilton. At the chapel anniversary, held on the following Lord's day, sermons were preached by the Rev. James Parsons of York. Collection upwards of £200.

**BANBURY.** The Rev. Furneaux Jordan has accepted the invitation of the baptist church, meeting in Bridge street chapel, to become their pastor. This is a sphere of great usefulness, and prompts to much prayer and activity. The church is increasing. The Sabbath school numbers two hundred. May the Great head of the church continue to bless them and more abundantly crown their efforts.

**ATTERCLIFFE, NEAR SHEFFIELD.**—The Rev. George Waterhouse, of Dewsbury, has accepted the unanimous call of the church and congregation at Zion chapel, Attercliffe, near Sheffield.

## BIRTHS.

On Monday last, at Monmouth, the wife of Mr WILLIAM HINDER, grocer, &c., of two sons and a daughter, who, with their mother, are doing well.

## MARRIAGES.

March 14, at Hope chapel, Sandbach, by the Rev. William Silvester, Mr THOMAS HANCOCK COOPER, member of the Sandbach Scientific Society, to MARY, granddaughter of Thomas SMALLMAN, Esq., of the above place.

March 15, at the Independent chapel, Stand, Mr J. B. BRIERLEY, eldest son of Joseph Brierley, Esq., Stand, to HANNAH, youngest daughter of the late Joseph BENTLEY, Esq., of Sand Field.

March 6, at Bristol, W. MORGAN, Esq., second son of the late R. W. Morgan, Esq., to CAROLINE, youngest daughter of the Rev. Stephen WILLIAMS, of Magor, Monmouthshire.

March 16, at Mount Zion chapel, Sheffield, Mr GEORGE HENRY LEE, merchant, to MARY ANNE, only daughter of Mr James BARTON, wine and spirit merchant, West street.

March 16, at Sudbury Priory, the Rev. ROBERT BUCHANAN, D.D., Glasgow, to ELIZABETH, daughter of the late Lawrence STODDART, Esq., Cambridge.

## DEATHS.

March 15, after a few hours' illness, of inflammation on the lungs, WILLIAM ORME GILL, only son of Mr R. M. Gill, bookseller, Blackburn, aged 16 months.

Jan. 2, 1843, JOSEPH SAMUEL RUTT NIGHTINGALE, the youngest son of the Rev. Benj. Nightingale, independent minister of Providence chapel, Bank lane, Wombersley, near Bury, Lancashire; and Feb. 2, departed this life (in blooming hope of eternal life), ELIZABETH, the second daughter of the Rev. Benj. NIGHTINGALE, in the 27th year of her age. Thus in one month has death called away two dear and beloved children, to the great grief of mourning parents.

March 8, HUGH GEORGE, youngest son of the Rev. H. W. JONES, baptist minister, Carmarthen, aged 16 months. Also, March 13, the day the infant was interred, MARY HAVARD JONES, only daughter of the above-named Rev. H. W. Jones, aged 5 years.

March 17, at 19, Upper Bedford place, WILLIAM McCULLOCH, Esq., formerly for many years examiner of Indian correspondence in the East India house.

At Paris, in his 75th year, M. Defauconpret, the well known translator of Scott's novels into French. The *Journal des Debats* says that he was twenty years a resident of London, during which time he published more than six hundred volumes of translations, and many original works.

March 12, Mrs HOBSON, of Boxmoor, Herts, sister of the late Dr Carey, of Scarampore, and mother of Jesse Hobson, Esq., of Hackney.

March 13, ANNE BLELLOCH, wife of Rev. D. Blelloch, home missionary, Boro' Fen, near Peterboro', aged 34 years.

Feb. 5, at Spanish Town, Jamaica, after a short but painful illness, Mr JOHN SOUL, in the 29th year of his age.

March 16, at Paris, in the 80th year of his age, M. BAILLEUL formerly a member of the National Convention. M. Bailleul was one of the judges of Louis XVI., but voted for the confinement of that unhappy prince. Having become, afterwards, member of the Council of Five Hundred, it was on his denunciation that assembly enacted, on the 18th Fructidor, a decree of banishment against fifty-two deputies, and forty-one proprietors and journalists.

**A VEGETABLE COMPASS.**—A late number of the *National Intelligencer*, a Washington journal, contains an account of a curious plant found in the western prairies, which serves the purpose of a compass. The plant is a species of fern, with one large flat leaf, whose plane always points to the north and south. The leaf is symmetrically disposed about the stalk. It attains the height of from ten to sixteen inches, and it is believed that it never blossoms. Its plane is always in the plane of the meridian, when not disturbed by high winds or other external causes. The indications are always most accurate in the valleys, where the beds are sheltered from the winds, and where the traveller finds them placed in parallel positions, faithfully pointing out the direction of the meridian. The leaf is symmetrical, and thus there is nothing in its indications to distinguish the north from the south. The cause of the polarity of this curious plant, yet remains to be discovered. Some suppose that its sap is impregnated with certain salts of iron, which produces the magnetic effect.

**A "RESPECTABLE" MAN.**—“What sort of a character has he?” “Why, that he is very rich.” “Aye! but what do people think of him?” “Think that he is very wealthy.” “But I mean what sort of a moral man is he?” “Oh! why he is a man of great property.”

Dr Graham states that the tooth ache may be cured in the same way as bacon—namely, by means of salts. Fill your mouth with warm salt and water, and keep it there a minute or two; your tooth ache will be banished.

## Trade and Commerce.

## LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, March 17.

## BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

COLEMAN, JOHN, Birmingham, victualler.

GOODMAN, LEWIS, Tottenham court road, draper.

## BANKRUPTCIES.

ALLEN, FRANCIS, jun., Borden, Staffordshire, brick maker, March 28, April 21: solicitors, Mr C. Flint, Stafford, and Mr W. H. Reece, Birmingham.

BAGSHAW, THOMAS, Buxton, Derbyshire, innkeeper, March 28, April 25: solicitors, Messrs Milne and Co., London, and Messrs Crossley and Sudley, Manchester.

BODDINGTON, RICHARD, Liquorpond street, Hatton garden, ironmonger, March 24, May 2: solicitor, Mr R. Meggy, Great Tower street.

CHRISTIE, THOMAS, 72, Gracechurch street, hosier, March 29, April 28: solicitor, Mr G. Stephen, Skinner's place, Sise lane.

CLARKE, GEORGE, 94, Crawford street, Bryanstone square, boot and shoe maker, March 24, April 28: solicitor, Mr Lewis, 7, Arundel street, Strand.

COOKE, JOSEPH, New street, Dorset square, upholsterer, March 24, April 28: solicitor, Mr W. Tate, Basinghall street.

ECLES, WILLIAM, Much Woolton, Lancashire, grocer, March 28, April 28: solicitors, Mr Toulmin, Liverpool, and Messrs Norris and Co., Bartlett's buildings, London.

HALLS, ROBERT, Colchester, Essex, fishmonger, March 27, April 28: solicitors, Messrs Blunt and Co., Colchester.

HARRISON, CHARLES, Wheat Sheaf public house, Red Lion street, Holborn, licensed victualler, April 1, 29: solicitor, Mr R. Fisher, 35, Queen square, Bloomsbury.

LABOUR, HENRY, Hartlepool, Durham, ship broker, April 10, May 1: solicitors, Messrs Smithson and Mitton, 23, Southampton buildings, Chancery lane, London, and Mr F. Poole, Hartlepool.

MESSEY, EDWARD, Portsea, Hampshire, brewer, March 28, April 28: solicitors, Messrs Briggs and Son, Lincoln's inn fields.

PARRY, JOSEPH, Haverfordwest, draper, March 30, April 27: solicitors, Mr Lloyd, 61, Cheapside, London, and Mr Leman, Bristol.

SCOTT, CHARLES, Newcastle-under-Lyne, Staffordshire, currier, March 30, April 20: solicitor, Mr T. Harding, Newcastle-under-Lyne.

SOUTHERN, ROBERT DEMPSEY, St Helen's, Lancashire, ship builder, April 4, 28: solicitors, Messrs Barnes and Barrow, St Helen's, and Messrs Chester and Toulmin, Staple inn, London.

WOOD, SAMUEL, and SONS, Liversedge, Yorkshire, machine makers, March 29, April 24: solicitors, Messrs Horsfall and Harrison, Leeds, and Mr T. Dean, Batley.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BEGGIE, PETER, and BUDDEN, JOHN BEGGIE, Edinburgh, ironmongers, March 20, April 10.

BISSET, JOHN, Fish Cross, Ayr, merchant, March 22, April 12.

CAMPBELL, WILLIAM, Glasgow, bookseller, March 22, April 12.

MORRISON, WILLIAM, and BUCHANAN, Broomielaw, Glasgow, March 22, April 12.

SIMSON, JOHN, Ayr, merchant, March 22, April 12.

WHITE, WILLIAM, late of Dalmellington, Ayrshire, but now of Glasgow, carpet manufacturer, March 22, April 12.

## Tuesday, March 21.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV, cap. 85:—

The baptist chapel, Bovey Tracey, Devonshire. J. Alsop, superintendent registrar.

## BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

PRESLAND, SAMUEL, and OSBALDITON, HENRY JOHN, Castle court, Laurence lane, City, warehousemen.

## BANKRUPTCIES.

BOOTH, THOMAS, Gisborough, Cleveland, Yorkshire, April 4 May 2: solicitors, Messrs Clarke and Trevor, Gisborough; and Mr Blackburn, Leeds.

BRADLEY, JAMES TAYLOR, and BRADLEY, WILLIAM, Leeds, ironmongers, April 5, May 5: solicitor, Mr James Bradley, Leeds.

BROWNLOW, THOMAS, jun., Marton Port, Lincolnshire, corn merchant, April 4, May 2: solicitors, Messrs Dudding and Danby, Lincoln; and Mr Dickinson, Leeds.

CULLIS, JOHN WATKIN, Clun, Shropshire, chemist, April 6, 27: solicitors, Mr Thomas Griffiths, Bishop Castle, Shropshire, and Mr Slaney, Birmingham.

DURRANT, THOMAS, and BANKS, GEORGE, late of Wilmington, but now of Farningham, Kent, bakers, April 1, May 2: solicitors, Messrs Young and Son, 29, Mark lane, London, and Mr Colyer, Dartford.

FAIERS, JOHN, Colchester, Essex, hair dresser, March 29, April 28: solicitors, Messrs Bignold and Mawe, 4, New Bridge street, London, and Mr Cooper, Colchester.

GRAY, BENJAMIN, Acton place, Kingsland, flour factor, March 28, May 3: solicitor, Mr Surr, Lombard street.

HEMBROUGH, PETER THOMAS BRADBURY, Wakefield, worsted manufacturer, April 3, May 1: solicitors, Messrs Taylor and Westmoreland, Wakefield.

HERRING, GEORGE, Rochdale, Lancashire, iron founder, April 4, 27: solicitors, Messrs R. M. and C. Baxter, Lincoln's inn fields, London, and Messrs Sale and Worthington, Manchester.

HOPKINS, WILLIAM, Farningdon street, City, butcher, March 28, May 2: solicitor, Mr H. S. Redpath, St Swithin's lane.

JOLLEY, HENRY, Castle Hedingham, Essex, tailor, March 28, May 5: solicitor, Mr Reynolds, Adam street, Adelphi, London.

MASTERMAN, CHARLES STANLEY, Croydon, Surrey, grocer, April 6, May 2: solicitors, Messrs Thompson and Co., Salter's hall, Cannon street.

MESSUM, EDWARD, Portsea, Southampton, brewer, March 28, April 28: solicitors, Messrs Briggs and Son, 55, Lincoln's inn fields, and Messrs Howard and Parnell, Portsea, Hants.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BELL, JOSEPH, Torbane, horse dealer, March 28, April 24.

DUFF, THOMAS, Pitcairn, Perthshire, flax spinner, March 30, April 20.

GALBRAITH, HUGH AIRD, Dalbeth, surgeon, March 25, April 29.

HUNTER, JAMES, Bathgate, ironmonger, March 23, April 22.

MILLER, GABRIEL, Dundee, writer, March 27, April 17.

## BRITISH FUNDS.

The portion of the funds which are open have been very heavy since our last, and prices have declined about  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	97	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto for Account.	97	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per cent. Reduced	—	—	—	—	—
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cts. Reduced	—	—	—	—	—
New 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	102 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Long Annuities	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	—
Bank Stock	—	—	—	—	—
India Stock	—	—	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	72pm	70pm	70pm	68pm	70pm
India Bonds	76pm	79pm	79pm	79pm	70pm

## RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	43	London and Brighton	36
Birmingham & Gloucester	49	London & Croydon Trunk	11
Blackwall	6	London and Greenwich	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bristol and Exeter	61	Ditto New	—
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	Manchester & Birm.	23 $\frac{1}{2}$
Eastern Counties	10	Manchester and Leeds	77
Edinburgh and Glasgow	45 $\frac{1}{2}$	Midland Counties	63
Great North of England	60	Ditto Quarter Shares	—
Great Western	96	North Midland	69 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto New	70	Ditto New	—
Ditto Fifths	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	South Eastern and Dover	26
London and Birmingham	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	South Western	65
Ditto Quarter Shares	52	Ditto New	—

## FOREIGN FUNDS.

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London: Printed and Published for the "National Complete Suffrage Union," by DAVIS and HASLAW, at the Depository, 4, Crane court, Fleet street.

**EDUCATION and FACTORIES BILL.**—At a MEETING of the COMMITTEE of the PROTESTANT DISSENTING DEPUTIES of the Three Denominations for the Protection of Religious Liberty, held at the King's Head Tavern, Poultry, London, on the 20th March, 1843;

HENRY WAYMOUTH, Esq., in the Chair;

It was Resolved—

1. That this committee highly approve of the resolutions passed by their sub-committee on the 16th instant, and advertised in the *Morning Chronicle* and *Times*.

2. That, having already with much satisfaction received several energetic communications from the country in entire accordance with the views expressed in those resolutions, and being, by repeated anxious investigation of the bill, confirmed in their conviction of its very obnoxious tendency—this committee invite all parties to give their most strenuous opposition to a measure which interferes with the civil rights of the poor, and the conscientious objections of those who dissent from the established church, which mixes up the economic arrangements of factories with general education—two subjects which ought to be kept entirely distinct, which evidently attempts to provide for church education out of the poor rates, which are paid by all denominations, and especially will deprive the schools of that popular control without which any educational scheme will be utterly inefficient. And the committee is convinced that by interfering with, and in some instances destroying, the existing British Sunday-schools, this bill will tend to impede rather than advance the moral and religious improvement of the people.

HENRY WAYMOUTH, Chairman.

**TO THE SUBSCRIBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.**  
**SEVERAL ADVERTISEMENTS** having appeared from the Journeymen Bookbinders, signed T. J. Dunning, Secretary to the Trade Union, reflecting upon the British and Foreign Bible Society for reducing the price of Binding their Bibles and Testaments, and thereby oppressing the workpeople—

We, the Undersigned Master Bookbinders to the Society, wishing to prevent any erroneous impressions now in circulation respecting the Institution, are desirous, in addition to our former communications on the subject, to state, that we are not only willing, but intend to pay our workpeople solely on Time Work instead of Piece Work. Men's wages to average from 27s. to 33s.; and women's from 7s. 6d. to 15s. weekly, for ten hours' work per day.

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THOMAS CROSS, Bartlett's buildings.

London, March 15, 1843.

**RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.** Treasurer, SAMUEL HOARE, Esq. Secretaries, Rev. R. MONROE, M.A., and Rev. E. HENDERSON, D.D.

**SPECIAL APPEAL FOR CHINA.**

The recent termination of the war in China is the subject of sincere and universal joy. The man of business looks with satisfaction at the event, as opening new fields for commercial enterprise; and the Christian is grateful that the gospel is likely to gain an entrance into that vast empire, and diffuse its blessings among the teeming millions of its inhabitants.

The RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY has long been anxious for the spread of religious publications among the Chinese. Its attention was first called to the subject in the year 1814, by the late Rev. Dr Milne. The providential facilities that exist for the labours of the Christian press have been strongly urged on the Society's attention. The same written language is understood by the millions of the people; education has made great advances; and Tracts, inculcating the worship of their dumb idols, have been in use for ages among the Chinese. These Tracts are sent to the temples by individuals who conceive that they have obtained favours from their gods, and are distributed gratis to all who will receive them. The circulation of Tracts, therefore, is no new thing; and the late Rev. Dr Morrison assured the Committee, that "it had long been his conviction that Tracts were the most available means of diffusing Christian knowledge in China." Liberal sums have been furnished for this object, amounting, with a few grants for Malay publications, to nearly £6000. The grants of the Society have enabled the missionaries to publish and circulate several millions of Tracts; which have excited attention among a reading people, and led some, it is hoped, to seek for the blessings of the gospel. Many of these publications have found their way along the coast of China, have reached Formosa and the Pescadores; they have gone to Manchow Tartary and Corea, and have been distributed at the great Loo Choo.

It is only necessary for the Committee to express their deep anxiety, that the missionaries in the Chinese Archipelago may be enabled to print large editions of numerous valuable Tracts, which have been, or are, in a course of careful revision; that they may thus be prepared to enter upon the new scenes of labour which appear to be providentially opened to them. The great activity of the church of Rome renders this the more urgent: not only are priests proceeding to China in considerable numbers, but Chinese youths are regularly educated in Europe, that they may return to their native land to spread the errors of Popery.

The present income of the Religious Tract Society is wholly inadequate to meet this important object, not amounting to £6000 a year, for making known divine truth in Great Britain and Ireland, the colonies, and heathen and other unenlightened lands; though the whole of such funds are applied to the gratuitous circulation of the Society's publications at home and abroad, without any deduction or charge whatever therefrom. The grants of last year exceeded the contributions by more than £2500. The Committee, therefore, appeal with confidence to the Christian Public to help them, at this peculiarly interesting crisis, in making the Christian press a spiritual blessing to a country which is said to contain nearly one-third of the whole human family.

Subscriptions already received, £1133 10s. 9d.

Subscriptions and Donations will be thankfully received, for "THE CHINESE FUND," by the Officers of the Society, 56, Paternoster row, and 65, St Paul's church yard; or at Messrs BARNETT, HOARES, and CO., Lombard street. Any sums for this important object may be remitted through a Banker to Mr JONES, at the Depository, or by Post Office Orders.

FACTORY DISTRICTS EDUCATION BILL.

AT a MEETING of the COMMITTEE of the SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION, held on the 18th of MARCH, 1843, it was resolved unanimously, that the following PETITION be presented to the House of Commons:

The humble Petition of the undersigned Officers and Committee of the Sunday-school Union.

Showeth,

That your Petitioners are the representatives of more than six thousand Sunday-school Teachers of both sexes engaged in the gratuitous instruction of children and young persons on Sunday, within five miles of the General Post-office, and are also in correspondence with many thousands of gratuitous Sunday-school Teachers in other parts of the United Kingdom.

That it appeared by the education returns made in the year 1843, that there were at that period existing in England and Wales, 16,827 Sunday-schools, containing 1,548,890 scholars, the very great proportion of which schools are conducted by gratuitous teachers, and which number has been since considerably increased.

That political and social advantages of the most important character have arisen, and are likely to increase under the present Sunday-school system, from the mode in which the children of the lower classes are brought into benevolent union and cooperation with the middle and upper classes of society, whereby the bonds of civil society are strengthened, and the growth of kindly feelings between its several classes are promoted.

That the instruction imparted in such schools is principally of a religious character, founded upon the doctrines of the Deity and atonement of Jesus Christ, the Divine influence of the Holy Spirit, and that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God; and such instruction has exercised a very beneficial influence on the scholars, and indirectly on their relatives and friends.

That your Petitioners rejoice at the efforts which have been made to provide the benefits of general education, both by the exertions of private individuals, and by the grants made under the directions of the Committee of her Majesty's Privy Council on Education.

That your Petitioners have examined the provisions of a bill lately brought into your honourable House for regulating the employment of children and young persons in factories, and for the better education of children in factory districts.

That it appears that the provisions of such bill will be applicable to every place in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, which contains any building in which steam, water, or any mechanical power shall be used to move or work any machinery employed in any way in the manufacture of cotton, wool, linen, silk, flax, tow, hemp, or jute.

That it appears that such schools are intended to receive not only the children employed in factories, but all other children who may desire admission; and that the scholars are to be required to attend such schools on Sunday as well as other days.

That your Petitioners apprehend that the establishment of such schools will effectively prevent the attendance of very many of the scholars in the Sunday-schools now existing, and in which their religious instruction is being conducted with advantages which will not be realised under the proposed system.

That your Petitioners submit, that the requiring the scholars to attend such schools on Sundays, is unnecessary and inexpedient, and is inconsistent with the great principle of religious liberty.

Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that the clause of the said bill, which requires the attendance of the scholars of such schools on Sundays, may be expunged.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

**THE DISSENTERS' and GENERAL LIFE**

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On the return of the Quarter the Directors beg to remind their Friends and the Public, that in the Fire Department they receive risks of all descriptions, including Chapels, School-rooms, Mills, Goods, and Shipping in Docks, Farming Stock, &c., at the same reduced rates as other respectable Companies, and make no charge on Policies transferred from other offices. In the Life Department they continue to transact all business relating to Life Assurances, Annuities, and Family Endowments, upon the most liberal terms consistent with sound principles and public security.

The usual liberal allowance made to Solicitors, Surveyors, and other Agents. By order of the Directors,

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

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Fine Java ..... 1s. 8d. Finest West India Coffee 1 10

The Finest old Mocha ..... 2 0

Much has been said about Mocha, yet few persons have tasted Real Mocha, from the very high price it has hitherto been rated to the public. The Connoisseur will find this a treat.

The best Cocoa ..... 8d. Soluble Cocoa ..... 9d.

Soluble Chocolate ..... 1